Sandwell
# CHRONICLE

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## HEALTH SECRETARY IN PLEDGE OVER SUPER-HOSPITAL RESTART

Restarting work on the Midland Met – 'a priority'

THE Health Secretary has vowed to ensure work restarts on Sandwell's stalled super hospital 'as soon as possible' – as he defended the Government for not stepping in to save the project sooner.

Matt Hancock said he was confident the 'pieces were in place' to get the Midland Metropolitan Hospital back on track after a deal was agreed, which will see the Government fund part of the £475 million project.

Work is expected to resume in the autumn on the scheme, which ran into disaster with the collapse of construction firm Carillion. The two-thirds-complete hospital site has effectively been left abandoned since the start of this year with the hold-up adding tens of millions of pounds to the cost and delaying opening by three years. Some work, which has already been completed, will have to be redone as the site has deteriorated having been left to the elements.

Mr Hancock, who replaced Jeremy Hunt at the Department of Health last month, said he had made ending the impasse over the hospital one of his key priorities on taking the job. He told the Express & Star: "I'm determined to get this much-needed new building, the Midland Met, going again as soon as possible.

"I came into the job six weeks ago with it stuck. I immediately set to work to find a solution. We have got the financial solution sorted and we now need to get the building going again as soon as possible."

He added: "I am now confident all the pieces are in place to get going."

The Health Secretary, who was speaking during a visit to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital, said he understood the frustration over the delays on delivering the Met, which was meant to open this winter.

The Government will now spend more than £300m completing the hospital after agreeing a bail-out package.

Mr Hancock said: "I entirely understand the frustration at the delay because of the mismanagement of a privately-controlled company (Carillion) but I have acted as swiftly as I can to get it going again and sort out the finances. Everything is in place to get it going again."

### 'It's not something you think you're going to find in canal'

# SHOTGUN SHOCK FIND FOR FAMILY

**WHAT should have been a fun day out fishing turned into something far more dramatic for one Sandwell family.**

Scott and Mary Hargood took their three sons out to the canal at Pitford Lane in Oldbury at the weekend for a go at magnet fishing, a hobby the family picked up to entertain their three children over the school holidays.

But after uncovering several harmless items such as sheets of scrap metal, money boxes and even a mobility scooter, the Hargoods were stunned when 12-year-old McKenzie pulled a loaded sawn-off shotgun from the water. After a quick inspection, Mr Hargood, aged 43, called the police and an armed response team swooped in.

Mr Hargood said: "My sons have pulled out a sword, a safe door, an empty money box – but this time we got this shotgun.

"McKenzie knew he had something as he said it felt a bit heavy. As soon as I saw it, I was like 'woah, let me help' as I didn't want to put him in danger. We took it home and gave it a wipe down. Then when we realised, we called the police. We were shocked. We didn't even know it was loaded.

"It's not something you think you're going to find in the local canal."

Mr Hargood, a carer to his wife Mary, added: "When I rang the police they said they would send someone the next day at 4pm, but when I told them the serial number I had someone call me 10 minutes later and said they needed to come and get it now." Since the incident on Sunday, Mr Hargood has not been put off taking his sons, Logan, 14, McKenzie, 12 and Finley, 10, out for more magnet fishing. The family run a YouTube channel called Crazy Magnet Family Hargood where they share their finds.

McKenzie Hargood, aged 12, left, with father Scott and brothers Finley, 10 and Logan, 14

A police spokesman said: "We would urge anyone who comes across a firearm to call police. Weapons should not be touched as they could in a dangerous condition."

● Watch the video – www.expressandstar.com

## Down on the farm to get your goat

A PETTING farm has opened up for business at a popular farm in a Black Country beauty spot.

The opening of the petting area at Forge Mill Farm, near Sandwell Valley Country Park provides visitors with an opportunity to understand nature and interact with animals. Specific activities are available, all the while offering an opportunity to view animals living organically in an open environment.

Demonstrations include chick handling and milking goats and cows, with professional farmers carrying out their duties, as part of the farm's operation. Visitors can also be provided with the opportunity to engage in these farming methods themselves under the supervision of staff.

The new petting area provides activities for children too. There is a small children's play area on site, a gift shop and maize maze.

All activities are provided at a small charge and the site is open seven days a week.

A representative of Forge Mill said: "The opening of the petting area has attracted many local tourists and increase enthusiasm for animals and farming." For further information go to sandwell.gov.uk and search for Sandwell Valley Country Park.

Farm worker Wayne Vale is seen with goat Milly

COURT

## Jail for thug who bit off part of ear

A VIOLENT bully who bit off part of the ear of his former partner during a savage attack has been jailed for more than five years. Darren Tyler ignored a court order banning him from any contact with the victim and slipped into her Tipton home after a heavy drinking spree, a judge heard.

The 36-year-old headed for the bedroom where she was woken by a loud bang but had no chance to escape his rage, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

"He punched and kicked her before biting part of her left ear off," said Miss Fiona Cortese, prosecuting, who continued: "She told police that he ripped her clothes off."

She called police who arrived to find her battered, bruised and bleeding from what was left of her ear. Tyler was still at the address and was arrested after the incident on June 30. He had already served an eight-month prison term imposed in October last year after an earlier breach of the court restraining order which outlawed any contact with the former partner.

He had been abusive to her throughout their five year relationship which ended last year, the court heard.Tyler from Primrose Hill, Smethwick, pleaded guilty to wounding with intent and breaching the restraining order. He was jailed for five years four months and was made the subject of a fresh restraining order for the next 10 years.

CRIME

## Witnesses appeal after man stabbed

A MAN was seriously injured in a stabbing in West Bromwich. Police were called to Jowetts Lane in Hateley Heath at around 2.50pm on Sunday after a man in his 20s suffered chest and head wounds.

He was taken to hospital but his injuries are not believed to be life-threatening. Officers are now urging anyone with information to call 101 quoting log number 1493 of August 26. West Bromwich East MP Tom Watson said: "I'm shocked and very saddened by the news of the stabbing.

"I urge anyone with relevant knowledge of the incident to contact Sandwell Police so those responsible can be brought to justice. My thoughts and prayers are with the victim and their family."

INSIDE

Hometown hero Harold honoured

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Sandwell CHRONICLE

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# Police chief puzzled by rise in violence

David Jamieson

THERE is no 'complete answer' to the rising level of violence across the region this summer, the Police and Crime Commissioner has claimed.

Over the past few months violent crime in the West Midlands has soared, with knife attacks, assaults and shootings becoming a regular occurrence.

Police resources have been dwindling in recent years, while funding for the force has also been cut. The average spend per person by the police force in the West Midlands is £186 per person. In London it is £337.

And PCC David Jamieson thinks that, while cuts and a longer, hotter summer have played their part in the rising levels of violence, this alone does not explain why there has been such a rise this year.

"There's two things happening this summer," he said. "You've got the background level of violence, that type of nasty violence we've seen increasing over the past two years. You put on top of that this fine weather, and that has actually escalated it further. And the fine weather, the more people out, the longer daylight, more people drinking outside.

"So there's more interaction with people and therefore there's more violence, I'm afraid. But the background violence is also going up, which is really quite worrying.

"And I don't think we have a complete answer to this, I don't think we have any answer. It's happening right across the country. They're seeing incidents that at one time would have been a minor skirmish between people, have now turned out to be quite nasty."

"People say is it the post-Brexit period, is it a period of being uncertain? Is it the affect of austerity?"

# Hometown honour for VC hero 100 years on

**ONE HUNDRED years on from his death – a war hero has been honoured in his hometown for the actions that earned him a Victoria Cross.**

Sergeant Harold Colley was awarded the highest possible honour for his brave actions during the First World War and distant family members and the people of Smethwick gathered on Saturday to honour his memory.

The 23-year-old died 100 years to the day back in 1918 after leading the 10th Lancashire Fusiliers into battle to recover Martinpuich in France. Facing a stern German counter-attack, Colley's company was overrun, but he managed to mobilise his defence, rally his men and successfully stop the German attack. He was fatally wounded in the process and died later that day of his injuries.

Born in Birmingham to John Colley and Elizabeth Hadley, and one of five children, he grew up in Smethwick.

At a memorial service at the cenotaph next to Smethwick Heritage Centre, three members of Sergeant Colley's family – his nephew Dr Ivor Hadley and great nephews Richard Hadley and Ian West, were joined by service men and women from local regiments, members of the public and representatives of the heritage centre to unveil a commemorative memorial stone.

The service was held by Rev David Gould from the Holy Trinity Church in Smethwick and the stone was unveiled by the Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Joy Edis. A parade also went past the Colley family home on Cheshire Road that is a stone's throw from the cenotaph.

Dr Ivor Hadley, aged 87, was born in Smethwick and spent 10 years working in Birmingham as a GP before moving to Devon, he said: "It's important for Harold's sake first of all to have a ceremony like this, he was such a brave man who served so well.

"We must remember all of those who sacrificed so much 100 years ago."

Dr Hadley's son, Richard, 50, said: "We're terribly proud to have a man like this in our family. It's amazingly touching for these people to come out and remember him. I wasn't expecting such a large crowd to remember him 100 years on.

"I have two teenage children and I've certainly told them about Harold and they're keen to hear about it – it's all about keeping his memory going."

Sgt Harold Colley's nephew Dr Ivor Hadley, great nephew Ian West and great nephew Richard Hadley

Mayor, Councillor Joy Edis taking part

The memorial stone which was unveiled

# Patient in an 11-hour wait for ambulance

IT took nearly 11 hours for an ambulance to reach a patient when the 'Beast from the East' hit the region, it has been revealed.

A BBC investigation has laid out the longest delays by ambulance services in the UK between June 2017 and June 2018. Ambulance trusts said the delays were linked to the busy winter period and that resources were prioritised for life-threatening emergencies.

In the West Midlands Ambulance Service area, the five highest wait calls – which were for less serious injuries – were over or around 10 hours. The longest wait was 10 hours and 47 minutes for a 50-year-old man who had suffered a head injury.

WMAS spokesman Murray MacGregor said three of the five calls had happened when strong winds from Siberia – dubbed the 'Beast from the East' – hit the region and caused widespread disruption across the whole of the country earlier this year.

Mr MacGregor said the other two calls had been taken during inclement weather in December and March and all of the five calls related to patients with less serious injuries.

Mr MacGregor said: " We always try to get to every call as soon as possible."

# Drummer on tour for 70th

CANADIAN rock legend Corky Laing is performing later this year.

The 70-year-old drummer, who is best known for his part in rock band Mountain, is performing at the Robin 2 in Bilston on October 15.

It is part of seven dates he is playing across the UK as part of his 70th birthday celebration tour. Advance tickets can be purchased by calling 01472 349 222.

He will be accompanied by his band, Chris Shutters on guitar, vocals and flute; Mark Mikel on bass, vocals and keyboards; and Phil Baker on guitar, vocals and keyboards.

Corky has played on more than 100 recordings and has been a major contributing artist on numerous singles, live albums and around 23 studio albums.

# Call for helpers in library garden plan

PEOPLE are being invited to help transform the garden at Cradley Library in Colley Lane.

The plan is to create a community growing area.

Anyone willing to volunteer their services should bring along gardening tools to a community action day on Saturday, at 10am.


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# Passengers get on board with value of services

NEARLY nine in 10 bus passengers in the West Midlands are happy with their service and record numbers think it is good value for money, an independent survey has found.

Figures released by Transport Focus show 88 per cent of the region's bus passengers are satisfied with their overall journey.

A record 67 per cent of passengers – up seven per cent on the previous year – also felt the cost of their bus travel represented good value for money.

Results from the survey, carried out in spring 2018, have been welcomed by Transport for West Midlands, part of the West Midlands Combined Authority, and the region's biggest operator National Express West Midlands.

Councillor Roger Lawrence, WMCA portfolio holder for transport, said the figures were a reflection of the improvements made in recent years as part of the pioneering West Midlands Bus Alliance.

The partnership, the first of its kind in the UK, brings together bus operators, local councils and other partners to work together and drive forward investment.

Councillor Lawrence said: "The Bus Alliance set a challenging satisfaction target of 85 per cent so it's encouraging to see that our work is paying off.

"Good quality bus services will help attract more people on to public transport and that's vital if we are to manage the road congestion that's already harming our regional economy and people's health.

"While these results show we are moving in the right direction we will continue to work to make services even better."

The survey also found that 76 per cent were satisfied with how punctual their service was – up four per cent from last year.

# Half in city want flexible working

NEW research from McDonald's found that half of Birmingham adults want to move away from the traditional 9 to 5 working patterns.

The study show most want jobs that prioritise flexibility and enable them to meet commitments outside work.

The fast food chain McDonald's worked with YouGov to conduct the survey. It found that jobs with earlier starts and a shorter working week were most appealing, with only seven per cent of Birmingham workers working the traditional '9-5'

If given the option, 28 per cent of full time workers in Birmingham would prefer to work a longer day in return for a shorter working week. A survey of 1,000 McDonald's employees supports the findings in Birmingham.

# MP to visit Oakwood amid G4S crisis

HMP Oakwood, near Wolverhampton

AN MP is to visit a prison near Wolverhampton amid the scandal over HMP Birmingham which saw it taken back into Government control.

Emma Reynolds has accepted an invitation from G4S to visit Oakwood Prison and said the private security firm had 'serious questions to answer' over the crisis at Winson Green. The private firm runs both prisons but was stripped of control of HMP Birmingham last week and the crisis there has sparked concerns about the future of Oakwood.

The MP for Wolverhampton North East warned that the firm may not be fit to continue running the Featherstone jail after it was announced the Government would be taking over Birmingham Prison for at least six months. An unannounced inspection of HMP Birmingham revealed widespread problems including prisoners openly smoking drugs, staff asleep on the job and bullying.

However, Ms Reynolds said she was pleased G4S had asked her to visit Oakwood. The Labour MP said one of her key aims would be to find out the ratio of prison officers to prisoners, following concerns unruly inmates had taken over HMP Birmingham.

More than 2,000 prisoners are housed at Oakwood. Prison managers were praised following an inspection earlier this year but concerns were raised over drugs and attacks on staff.

She said: "I will be going there with an open mind. The reason I have questioned the competence of G4S is because I think they have questions to answer on why the standards at Birmingham Prison deteriorated so rapidly."

# Fewer migrants coming into the Black Country

**FEWER foreigners have moved to the Black Country and Staffordshire from abroad since the Brexit vote – but the wider region's migrant population has still risen by more than 20,000.**

New figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) show that 7,308 more migrants came to the area than departed in the year to the end of June 2017.

However, the figure is 1,426 lower than the influx of 8,734 migrants to the region that was recorded in the 12 months leading up to the EU referendum in June 2016.

According to the figures, last year 30,997 people moved to the West Midlands from abroad and 10,614 left. This leaves the latest net migration figure at 20,383 – a drop of 5,622 on the previous year.

And nationally the net migration figure is around 270,000 – well above the Government's net migration target of 100,000 – although EU migration is at its lowest level since 2012.

## Implications

Madeleine Sumption, director of the Migration Observatory at the University of Oxford, said: "The UK has clearly become a less attractive country for EU migrants since the referendum. The lower value of the pound means that workers coming here for higher wages are getting less than they were in the past, and economic conditions in many of the key EU countries of origin have improved a lot over the past few years. Uncertainty about the implications of Brexit may have played a role."

In the Black Country Sandwell had the highest net migration figure in the 12 months to June 2017, at 2,214. In Wolverhampton the figure was 2,020, while Walsall and Dudley had net migration figures of 858 and 427 respectively.

A total of 2,986 people moved to Staffordshire from abroad and 1,197 left, leaving the latest net migration figure at 1,789 – down 200 on the 12 months to June 2016. Non-EU net migration to the UK is now almost three times higher than from the EU, the ONS says.

# Alfie braves shave for grandad

Alfie Mansell, with some of his hair and a picture of his grandfather Steve Alford, at Banks Salon

A NINE-YEAR-OLD schoolboy spent three years growing his hair for charity. And now Alfie Mansell, from Walsall, has braved the shave at Banks Salon in Wednesbury to raise hundreds for Burkitt's lymphoma charity The Scott Hampton Foundation.

The youngster has been on a mission to give something back to the charity ever since losing his grandfather Steven Alford to the disease in 2016. Steven, a grounds maintenance worker for Sandwell Council, lost his battle with the illness after just six months, aged 59. Alfie lobbied teachers and fellow pupils from Yew Tree Primary School, where he will return to next month as a Year 5 student, to raise a total of £400 for The Scott Hampton Foundation.

Alfie seen with his long hair

Nan Pam, 59, said: "Steven was diagnosed in the July of 2015, it is a very rare disease called Burkitt's lymphoma. For six months he spent more time in hospital than he did at home. He was in a bad way and passed away on January 10 in 2016."

Pam said: "Alfie wanted to do something so that other people would not feel the way he felt. He is a lovely little boy, a loving child with a big heart. Steven would have been so proud of him."

Donations can be made to justgiving.com/scotthampton/donate.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Riders saddle up for cycling show

KEEN cyclists will be able to see the latest new bikes and a range of exhibitions at a national event next month.

The Cycling Show returns to the NEC in Birmingham and will feature 300 exhibitors, more than 500 brands and the latest bikes and accessories.

People will be able to try out the latest new models at the show which runs from September 28 to 30.

There will be free test tracks, while visitors will have the option to try before they buy and try out the latest accessories and kit.

Family tickets start from £37 for two adults and three children aged under 13.

## £10 photocards charge scrapped

YOUNG people across the region can get 50 per cent discounts on bus, train and tram travel – without having to pay £10 for a photocard.

Transport for West Midlands has waived the £10 card charge for all 105,000 young people aged 16-18 in the West Midlands after some young people starting apprenticeships and college courses said the expense was a barrier for them.

Mayor Andy Street said: "We've always offered discounts for those in full-time education. Now, we have waived the £10 photocard fee."

## Police hunt for off-road bikers

POLICE are hunting three off-road bikers in Wednesbury after complaints from residents.

The boys were involved in off-road biking in Friar Park on August 19.

Sgt Chris Bolton of Sandwell Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: "There have been numerous reports about off-road bikers, particularly in Friar Park.

Their behaviour affects everyone in the area and we take this very seriously.We are grateful to those people that have provided us with information."

## Driver suspected of drugs offences

A DRIVER was arrested on suspicion of drugs offences after being stopped by police on the M6. The car, said to have false number plates, was followed by officers before being brought to a stop near Junction 10 for Walsall.

The driver was arrested on suspicion of drug-driving, possession of cannabis and on suspicion of driving offences. Motorway police allege he had used false plates as he did not have any insurance. Police dogs were brought in to help with the arrest.

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## COUNTY NEWS

### Average earnings below decade ago

AVERAGE earnings are still £13 a week lower than a decade ago, an economic think tank has reported.

Just over two million more people have found work since the financial crash of 2008, with more than a million of those in the poorest third of households, the research by the Resolution Foundation showed.

However, with 800,000 on zero-hours contracts, job insecurity is still "widespread" and real average earnings are still £13 a week less than a decade ago, it said. TUC general secretary Frances O'Grady accused the Government of turning a blind eye to stagnating wages.

### Call for crackdown on antique guns

IN a bid to tackle the use of antique guns by criminals, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson is calling on the government to tighten firearms laws.

He is urging changes to nine gun categories as concern grows over gang members buying antique weapons.

David Jamieson said: "It is vital the government makes it much harder for gang members and criminals in the West Midlands and beyond to get their hands on antique guns which can be turned into deadly weapons with relative ease. It needs to ensure obsolete calibre firearms don't fall into the wrong hands."

### Ban on kitten and puppy sales likely

THE sale of puppies and kittens by pet shops and other commercial dealers will be banned under plans put out for consultation by the Government.

Anyone buying or adopting a pet less than six months old will have to deal directly with the breeder or a rescue centre under the proposed ban.

The move aims to reduce serious health problems and socialisation issues which afflict pets kept in poor conditions by unscrupulous, profit-driven breeders.

### Appeal to take shorter showers

FAMILIES in the region have been urged to consider how much water they are using after a study found people shower for 10 minutes on average. This summer's heatwave led to water shortages in parts of the UK.

Experts say time in the shower should be limited to four minutes but a new survey found people in the West Midlands generally spend 10 minutes having a wash.

# Airport second best in the country

BIRMINGHAM has been named as the second best large airport in the UK.

In a new league table, the West Midlands premier airport was beaten only by Heathrow Terminal 5 when it came to ranking airports that see at least 10 million passengers or more each year.

The airport was rated four stars out of five for its baggage drop queues, three stars for its passport control queues, three stars for its security queues, two stars for its baggage reclaim, four stars for its seating and three stars for its toilets. It received an overall 61 per cent customer score.

Of all the airports in the country, Birmingham ranked 16th out of 31.

East Midlands was ranked 17th with a customer score of 60 per cent.

London Luton was named the UK's worst airport by consumer group Which? for the third consecutive year.

It received a customer score of just 35 per cent after being given the lowest rating for half of the 10 categories.

The airport responded to the findings by stating that its own research found that 70 per cent of passengers were "happy with their experience".

Recent analysis of Civil Aviation Authority data found that London Luton is the worst UK airport for flight punctuality, with departures typically 20 minutes behind schedule last year.

The research was based on a survey of 11,265 passengers which was conducted in April and May. Some 521 were questioned about London Luton.

Scores were based on a combination of overall satisfaction and likely recommendations tto a friend.

# All smiles as students make grade at GCSE

Report by Pippa Armstrong

**PUPILS across the Black Country were all smiles after making the grade at GCSE.**

Across the country pass rates rose in the wake of the biggest exams shake-up for a generation.

For some subjects, the traditional A* to G grades are being phased out, to be replaced with a 9 to 1 system, with 9 the highest grade.

In the West Midlands the pass rate fell slightly to 63.1 per cent but success stories included Rashida Akalwaya, head girl at Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School, Wednesbury, with seven grade 9s and two A*s.

At Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy in Tividale 64 per cent of students achieved a grade 4 or higher and in maths 57 per cent of students achieved a grade 4 or above. Overall, half of the students achieved at least a grade 4 in English and maths.

Raihaanah Kulthoom,of Ormiston Forge Academy in Cradley Heath, secured four 9s, two A*s, five 8s and one A. In English, 64 per cent of students achieved Grade 4 or above.

Dr Lisa Mason, Head of Academy at Ormiston Forge Academy, said: "We are delighted that students continue to make strong progress."

Grace Academy Darlaston has continued to see year on year improvements with record numbers of students achieving level 4 and level 5 or above in English and maths.

Some 65 per cent of Students at Queen Mary's Grammar School in Walsall came in at A/A* or 7-9. In the Mathematics GCSE, 85 per cent of all entries were a grade 7 or better.

There was an improvement in the number of students achieving pass grades in both English and mathematics at Walsall's Joseph Leckie Academy.

Among the top students at Aldridge School was Irfarn Mahmood with four grade 9s and two grade 8s.

Pupils celebrate their exam success at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy

Stuart Bathurst Catholic High in Wednesbury celebrates

Top performers at Aldridge School

# Paradise Circus shut for Metro extension

THE next phase of Birmingham Westside Metro Extension will start next month. This stage of the works will see the Metro line constructed from Victoria Square to Centenary Square.

Paradise Circus will close in both directions from Monday, September 3 until summer 2019 to enable the work to be done.

The A38 underpass, which runs beneath Paradise Circus, will remain open in both directions.

The Midland Metro Alliance is urging people passing through the area to plan ahead, allow more time for journeys, travel off peak where possible or use public transport.

The Westside extension is the next phase of works following the Metro extension from St Chads to Grand Central which opened for passenger service in May 2016.

Construction on this extension, which is a little over 2km in length and is being delivered in two phases, started in summer 2017.

When fully completed the Metro will operate between Grand Central in the city centre to Hagley Road in Edgbaston.

The first phase of development will continue from Grand Central, past Birmingham's Town Hall to Centenary Square. The extension will provide Metro stops serving Victoria Square and the Paradise and Arena Central developments at the redeveloped Centenary Square.

When the first phase of the Birmingham Westside extension is open for passengers the 840-metre route will operate on battery power throughout and will be the first tramway in the UK to do so.

# Work and home life 'is merging'

UK workers have abandoned efforts to maintain a boundary between their professional and personal lives.

New research has revealed employees now live a permanently blurred line, sustaining both a work life and home life at the same time.

A survey of 6,755 people, commissioned by website totaljobs, found that 58 per cent of employees work from home outside business hours. The average employee will spend 7hr 49min a week working at home, the equivalent of almost 51 extra working days a year.

Also 23 per cent of employees say they work from home because they don't have time to do all of their work during business hours, suggesting working from home is a necessity rather than a choice.

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# Motability award is handed to dealership

BRINDLEY Honda at Millennium Park, West Bromwich, has won a regional award for its work with the Motability car scheme.

The accolade is part of a programme of awards, launched last year by Motability Operations, to recognise and reward outstanding customer service provided by local Motability dealerships.

The awards programme is designed to reward best practice and ensure all Motability customers receive exemplary customer service across the Motability scheme's national dealer network.

The awards are judged on how a dealer delivers the scheme to customers, which is assessed by customer feedback and reviews of their performance.

Mark Hossack, dealer principal at Brindley Honda West Bromwich, said: "We pride ourselves on excellent customer service, so we're absolutely thrilled to receive this award.

"Motability is extremely important to so many motorists who rely on it heavily in their day-to-day lives. To be awarded for helping customers who need this support is hugely gratifying and we hope to help many more customers that visit our dealership in the future."

The Honda Motability Scheme is available over a three-year period to anyone receiving a Higher Rate Mobility Allowance or War Pensioners Mobility Supplement. Up to two drivers can be nominated to drive on the owner's behalf, with the Honda Jazz, Civic, CR-V, and HR-V all available on the scheme.

# Phoenix help for cancer families

EMPLOYEES at Phoenix Materials Testing have pledged their support to Dudley-based charity White House Cancer Support.

The Brierley Hill-based firm will be holding regular fundraisers to help families affected by cancer within the Dudley borough.

Phoenix staff will visit the White House in Ednam Road on September 5 for a tour of the premises and to find out how their fundraising activities will support the charity's work.

White House Cancer Support offers a bespoke transport service to attend cancer treatments, holistic therapies, counselling services including bereavement support, financial advice and wellbeing services.

Sam Shevyn, operations manager at Phoenix on The Wallow Industrial Estate, Fens Pool Drive, said: "Our staff have been keen to work with a local charity to ensure that we give something back to our community."

# £15m to support wholesaler's growth

Finance director Peter Fairley, managing director Marcus Singh, Graham Brown, HSBC relationship director

THE modernisation of a food and drink warehouse will create 10 new jobs.

Cash and carry wholesaler and food distributor Hyperama has secured a £15 million finance package from HSBC to refurbish the Richmond Street warehouse in West Bromwich.

The move aims to increase its importing capabilities and support its growth ambitions.

It will use part of the HSBC finance package to modernise the site, which will help to improve efficiency and the overall shopping experience for customers. The business will also use a £2.5m combined trade and overdraft line to increase imports from the Far East, together with an increase in other working capital lines to support its expansion.

Hyperama has a long-standing specialism in sourcing food and drink from South and East Asian countries and sells to independent convenience stores and restaurants across the Midlands and beyond.

Hyperama managing director Marcus Singh said: "We're delighted to receive financial support from HSBC UK.

"Our customers demand an ever-increasing range of food and drink products from overseas and the funding package puts us in a great position to meet this demand."

"It will also allow us to tap into new trade markets."

Roger Pratt, HSBC UK's area director for corporate banking in the East Midlands, said: "HSBC UK is dedicated to supporting ambitious businesses in the Midlands and Hyperama is no exception to that."

# Health practice remains in special measures

**A HEALTHCARE practice that serves more than 9,000 patients is to remain in special measures after heath watchdogs rated it inadequate for the second time in six months.**

Bosses of the Norvic Family Practice in Smethwick have been told to improve in four out of five categories inspected by the Care Quality Commission.

Inspectors raised concerns over the recording of 'significant events' and looked into two incidents at the Norvic Family Practice.

The Care Quality Commission found gaps in the information recorded for each incident such as details of the learning outcome. Inspectors said health bosses had not learned lessons from significant events, details of which were not provided.

## Inadequate

The practice, also known as the Victoria Health Centre, received a rating of inadequate in the 'safe' and 'well-led' categories. It also received a rating of requires improvement in the 'effective' and 'responsive' categories – and a rating of 'good' in the 'caring' category.

It follows an inspection in January which found that patients were at risk of harm because systems and processes were not in place to keep them safe.

The practice, situated in an area with high levels of deprivation, currently has an approximate list size of 9,150 patients. It is managed by three GP partners who also employ a salaried GP.

Bosses from the practice said they had been working hard over weekends and evenings to ensure improvements had been made.

Dr Bates, of the Norvic Family Practice, said the staff were 'hopeful' that the health watchdogs rating would change following a full inspection on September 5.

He said: "There is an inspection process and they will pick up on certain aspects.

"The full inspection is on September 5 and we are hopeful that the inadequate rating will be lifted in the full inspection."

# Olivia goes wild for RSPB day out

Olivia Hird had a 'great day' at RSPB Sandwell after winning the Wild Words competition

A SCHOOLGIRL showed she was made of the write stuff to win a day out at RSPB Sandwell.

Olivia Hird, aged 11, of Harborne, won a competition, to submit a short story based on her experiences of nature, and was treated to a day out for herself and her companions.

The Wild Words contest was organised by the education team.

Olivia is due to take up a place at Handsworth Girls' School in September, and invited her friends from her after-school club, run by Kidz.Comm, based in Harborne.

Olivia has a great love of animals and wildlife and says she would like to be a vet.

She and friends were guided by volunteers through various activities such as pond-dipping, den building and the basics of bird watching.

Olivia was also given a mini-beast explorer kit.

"It has been a great day, the pond-dipping and the den building were lots of fun," she said.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Hunt for Albanian shooting suspect

DETECTIVES are searching for a 34-year-old suspected of murder in Albania who has links to the West Midlands.

Granit Shehu is accused of shooting his victim during a fight in the eastern European country on September 16, 2015. He is described as being white, 5ft 9in, with short brown hair, and has links to London, Eastbourne, Leeds and the West Midlands.

Members of the public are advised not to approach Shehu if they see him, but to contact the Metropolitan Police Extradition Unit on 020 7230 3191. Alternatively they can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Murder victim inquest opens

THE inquest on a murder victim found dead at his home has been opened and adjourned. Edwin Michael Bradley's body was discovered by police at his house in St Thomas Close, Coalpool, Walsall, on July 6.

The 65-year-old's neighbours called police after he had not been seen for several days, the Black Country Coroner's Court heard. The post mortem revealed he had been killed as a result of a blunt force trauma.

An investigation has been launched and Darren Barnes, 47, of no fixed abode, has been charged with his murder. Assistant coroner Emma Serrano suspended the inquest.

## Rockers are due on the Horizon

BRING Me The Horizon will play the West Midlands later this year.

The announcement comes after the quintet released debut single Mantra from their upcoming sixth studio album, Amo. The Sheffield rockers formed in 2004, fronted by Drop Dead owner Oliver Sykes.

They released their debut album Count Your Blessings in 2006.

Their major label debut, Sempiternal, was released in 2013 and went gold in Australia and then silver in the UK. The group will play Arena Birmingham on November 23.

## It's a beautiful day for U2 tribute band

A U2 tribute band is playing the whole Achtung Baby album in the West Midlands next month.

U2 2 is performing at the Robin 2 in Bilston on Friday, September 7, and will be supported by Black Bear Kiss.

The band are now into their 26th year as the leading look-a-like, sound-a-likes to U2. Tickets to next month's gig cost £10 in advance or £12 on the door. Visit www.therobin.co.uk or call 01902 401211 to book tickets.

## IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

# Come on mayor, drop the Ali G look

REMEMBER that remarkably unfunny comedian who went around pretending to be Mayor of Stafford, and took to Twitter making offensive comments about other mayors and genuinely acting like a bit of an idiot?

I only mention it because from reports this week it sounds like he might be operating in Sheffield.

Councillor Magid Magid – presumably his parents were short of ideas when it came to choosing a name – has certainly taken, shall we say, an unconventional approach to the job since he became mayor.

He turns up to civic functions dressed like Ali G, wears the mayoral chains like it's a bit of bling he bought from Cash Converters, and has just returned from Amsterdam where he talked about youth culture. Then there was the mayor-making ceremony, which was accompanied by incidental music from Star Wars, and the Superman theme tune. Oh, and during an interview with a newspaper last week, he appeared to think Queen Victoria was still on the throne.

Really, where do they find these people? You might remember how in this year's local elections Tettenhall's Sohail Khan decided he was going to rap his way onto Wolverhampton Council, causing a bit of controversy with a pistol along the way.

The sad thing about Magid Magid is he probably does have a genuine tale to tell. He arrived in Britain from Somalia as a five-year-old refugee from the civil war, spoke no English, and went on to study at Hull University. He could have been an inspirational role model, but instead he has chosen to turn his office into a laughing stock. There never anything less cool than politicians trying to get down with the kids. Epic fail, I believe the phrase is.

❒❒❒

CRAIG Hardwick caught two men on camera while they were dumping an old mattress in his back garden. Far from apologetic, they can be heard on Mr Hardwick's video giving him an earful, telling him he was racist for objecting.

I really hope these two get the book thrown at them, and are either fined several thousand pounds or spend a few months in prison, but I won't be holding my breath.

West Mercia Police has recently set up a website where people can grass up bad drivers by uploading their dash-cam footage, so why don't we have a similar scheme for fly-tippers, fly-posters and litter louts? I know which bothers me the most. And I know which one gets the most attention from the authorities.

# Actor's lost his Spacey as a box office draw with flop

How the mighty have fallen, as under-fire Kevin Spacey's latest movie predictably fails

Don't let him be misunderstood – Chief Constable of West Mercia, Anthony Bangham

Jeremy Paxman on University Challenge, surprised at the lack of knowledge about the M1?

# Wolvo not a winner, but people are great

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

IN a poll of 55,000 dimwits, Wolverhampton has been voted Britain's second-worst city, after Bradford. All I can add to the debate is that I worked in Wolverhampton for 28 years and met some of the best people I have ever known.

I CAN'T provide the same ringing endorsement for Bradford. My father was born in the city. I recall him once saying: "I come from Bradford, and Bradford is a bloody good place to come from."

HOW are the mighty fallen. Kevin Spacey, accused last year of sexual harassment dating back many years, made a pitiful £99 this week on the opening night of his new movie. This is the same Kevin Spacey who delivered that mammoth dramatic masterclass as Frank Underwood – plotter, killer and president – in the Netflix version of House of Cards. I've just finished watching all 65 hour-long episodes, made between 2013 and 2017 and what an extraordinary tour de force it was. But, justice must be done, no matter how much shining talent it drags off into obscurity.

IN some versions of this blog on Tuesday, the Colosseum in Rome appeared as the Coliseum. Traditionally, 'coliseum' refers to any big outdoor arena while the one in Rome is 'Colosseum'. However, some of the new online dictionaries suggest that 'coliseum' is gradually taking over. So while I admit to a mistake, it was possibly not a colisal one.

YOU have to be pretty damn thuggish these days to get into prison. The courts are so soft that only the nastiest get banged up. They are the ones who use extreme violence, and the most grotesque weapons, to terrify, wound or kill their innocent victims. So how are we supposed to react to the news that some of these killers, maimers, extorters and serial burglars are so scared by the conditions in Birmingham Prison that they are afraid to leave their cells? Here is a liberal dilemma: do we have to feel really, really, genuinely sorry for them or is it okay just to pretend?

A READER sends me his take on the Birmingham Prison scandal: "Prison inspectors were horrified to see cockroaches, vomit, flies, human excrement, rat droppings and drug paraphernalia. It got even worse after they left New Street Station. "

MY eye was caught by the tale of the woman who lost a contact lens and assumed it had fallen out. Twenty-eight years later it was discovered by a surgeon removing a cyst from her eye. I bet there can't be many of us contact-lens wearers who do not lose one from time to time, usually for a few minutes. But I had a colleague who realised his rigid gas-permeable lens (the little hard-glass sort) had slipped into the space between eyeball and socket. He thought no more about it. Later, sitting in a bar on holiday, he felt something and assumed it was an insect on his cheek. Turned out to be the missing lens. And when I say "later," I mean 18 months later.

A NEW treatment for enlarged prostate glands takes only five minutes and will soon be available on the NHS. This miracle cure involves aiming jets of steam at the affected area. It goes without saying, in these cash-strapped times, that there will be long queues at the prostate-zapping clinics. Even so, chaps, do not try this at home.

BY some terrible mishap in February of this year, people got the idea that the Chief Constable of West Mercia, Anthony Bangham, was in favour of nicking speeders at just 1mph over the limit. It led to this statement from him: "Comments I made last week have led to a perception that the police are going to be pursuing and prosecuting drivers just one mph over the speed limit. That is not the case and was never advocated." Six months on, incredibly, Mr Bangham has again created the impression that he favours zero-tolerance policy. As Oscar Wilde might have put it: To be misunderstood once may be considered unfortunate. To be misunderstood twice looks like carelessness.

WE don't want people vaping on the buses, agreed? Whatever the health experts may tell us of its alleged benefits, vaping is just plain anti-social. It not only stinks but, worst of all, it shows exactly where the vaper's breath – great, billowing clouds of scented breath – is going. You are suddenly made unpleasantly aware that you are breathing in someone else's expelled air. Revolting.

INTERESTING to see that among the undoubted brilliance of University Challenge (BBC2), the youngsters did not know where the M1 motorway goes and thought the nation which provided sanctuary for the defeated Kaiser in 1918 was the UK. Brilliant at quantum physics, not so good at finding Leeds. Or Kaisers.

## TALKING POINT

# A waste of time, with service by jobsworths

MY green bin – i.e. the bin that is used for garden refuse – has not been very full of late, with no lawn cuttings, what with the scorched earth it has been instead. Ergo, there have been several collection rounds made by the appropriate binmen where my green bin has been absent.

My logical mind therefore put two and two together to get five and thought after clearing some debris and cutting back stuff that WAS growing in this recent interminable heat – resulting in four bin bags of extra greenery apart from one very full wheelie bin – there would have been no problem in the extra twigs, weeds and otherwise eminently crushable stuff, being chucked in the back of the lorry.

I'm pretty sure that before, when there was something extra put out for the boys in bright yellow, they scooped it up without a complaint. So when I arrived back from a hard day's toil to find the bags still stoically in place on the drive, I was a little disheartened.

Surely collectors could use a little initiative sometimes and think, well, a few extra bags won't matter, and just do the decent thing, even if it meant splitting the bags open and putting the plastic bits back in the wheelie bin, is that really too much to ask? In the meantime, I've since had to wait for the next collection day, two weeks later, and keep rotting vegetation in the garage next to the tumble drier.

I made damn sure that for the next collection ALL the said natural waste was reduced to a pulp in order to fit into my wheelie bin, without a hint of spillage over the rim at the top. It meant some death-defying rampant jumping up and down inside the bin holding onto an overhead eave, but what the heck? It all fit in and as a result, was whisked away.

One of these days I'm going to do myself an injury. I wonder how I'd get on if I did fall out of a wheelie bin? Could I sue the council? After all people trip over paving stones and get away with it.

And another thing, if I want to go down the tip and just drop off sundry items collected from a clear-out in bin bags, I don't see why I should have to sort them out into plastics, metals, cardboard etc., that way madness lies. Half the time it means actually disassembling items. Surely the tip chaps are there to do exactly that, otherwise what exactly are they doing?

Our household is obsessional when it comes to saving the planet. Our normal rubbish bin is barely used as everything possible is recycled. So I think we qualify for some semblance of charity from council operatives who are supposed to be working on our behalf. After all, what do we pay our council tax for?

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# Keep Wolves at Molineux, plea by fan

THANK you for your comment. Molineux houses the sacred heart of Wolves. It says everything that's appropriate. I've written to Mr Shi, Wolves chairman, and sent a copy of your comment article. I feel physically sick and upset that Mr Shi could demolish Wolves Molineux.

The last time I felt this was in 1982 when Wolves faced bankruptcy. At least there's Mr Shi's investment. But as I've written to Mr Shi, 'money isn't everything'. If Wolves left Sir Jack Hayward's beloved Molineux, he'd turn in his grave.

That's why it's more upsetting, what Sir Jack did for Wolves and the team and the fans – and Wolverhampton. Molineux is known all over the world like Old Trafford or the Real Madrid, only Molineux and Wolves pioneered European football with the floodlit games of the '50s – beating Honved the world champions. History is there at Molineux. At the same ground, an enlarged redeveloped Molineux, that's fine, it's happened before. To move elsewhere – no!

**JACKIE ADAMS**
Rowley Regis

# Row over travellers

EXPRESS and Star, Monday 13th August: you could not make this up.

Page 5, Walsall Council leader Mike Bird is slammed over remarks in a radio phone-in regarding travellers. Apparently words were used 'no respect', 'do not give a damn', 'lawless society' and 'parasites'.

Page 1, more than 20 caravans set up camp on Rowley Regis railway station car park, taking up a 'large chunk' of the 750 spaces. These will have been paid for by the taxes of local people who pay their way, so they can get to work and keep paying their way.

Two questions arise:

Just how, do Councillor Bird's critics, describe these actions of the travellers, and did our illustrious police take the chance to inspect for tax, MOT and insurance?

**ROBERT W WHITE**
Wigmore

# Different era with Churchill

IN response to Brian Clark's letter, could he explain what Winston Churchill has to do with the people of today?

He lived in a different era, people did have human rights and a better justice system than we have today.

Most people today don't trust politicians, this goes for other countries as well.

There are people who can't be bothered to vote, but there are people that have nothing worth voting for. He states that we don't have the rights to complain whatever the result, he personally knew what he was voting for. He wanted out of the corrupt undemocratic money-wasting EU. He should look closer to home.

Being as people like us have no rights to complain, next time these politicians start a war, people like him don't need people like us to sort out their problems.

The politicians will sort it out without our help, good luck to them, it's about time they had the guts to sort out their own problems.

**JAMES RUSHTON**
Tipton

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**POST**
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

**EMAIL**
sandwell.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

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# Burkas are a divisive barrier to interaction

THERE are signs that collectively the establishment is losing its sense of humour along with its sense of proportion in the Boris and the burka controversy.

Islamic scholars say there is nothing in their religion which requires burka wearing.

Ultimately it's a fashion decision bolstered by the proclaimed aim of preserving the wearer's modesty.

But it's divisive, because it not only proclaims difference, it's a barrier to effective communication and face to face interaction.

Also there are security considerations. Many banks and shops request the removal of motorcycle helmets before entry. Similar considerations apply to burka wearers.

These public concerns must be given proper consideration not brushed aside for fear of upsetting the sensitivities of a minority of a minority.

**KEITH VAUGHAN**
Wednesbury

# Memory loss, or just lying?

WHAT could be worse than a prime minister who can't remember? In politics lapses of memory are a political get out, but there are moments in everyone's life that are never forgotten such as laying a wreath on a gang of killers' graves, cosying up to IRA gunmen...

These well-documented incidents are such good prompters, for not only has Jeremy nailed his cross to terrorist groups, but also he has such a bad memory we don't know if he's suffering from dementia or a liar.

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# Major sport event to boost region's economy by £1.5bn

**THE West Midlands will receive a £1.5 billion boost from the Commonwealth Games, according to experts.**

A surge in visitor numbers and an increase in international trade will deliver the windfall for the region in the first year after the competition, former Treasury economist Chris Walker said.

The West Midlands is also expected to benefit to the tune of £500m from construction work before the 2022 competition, including a state-of-the-art aquatics centre in Smethwick, which will host swimming and diving events. The Alexandra Stadium will also be revamped.

The competition has been described as a 'golden opportunity' for the region.

West Midlands Mayor Andy Street said: "It is vital the Commonwealth Games leaves a legacy for the region.

"We are determined we do this through the transport investments we are developing, the housing that will replace the athlete's village and the sports facilities.

### Golden

Dennis Hone, group board member for Mace, which conducted the research, and former chief executive of the Olympic Delivery Authority, said: "The 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham is a golden opportunity to use global sport and infrastructure investment to deliver transformational change, a positive lasting legacy and a boost to UK exports to the fast-growing countries of the Commonwealth.

"If we get it right, the 2022 Commonwealth Games will be so much more than just sport – they can represent a landmark period of change and growth for an entire region and help boost the UK's global trade post-Brexit."

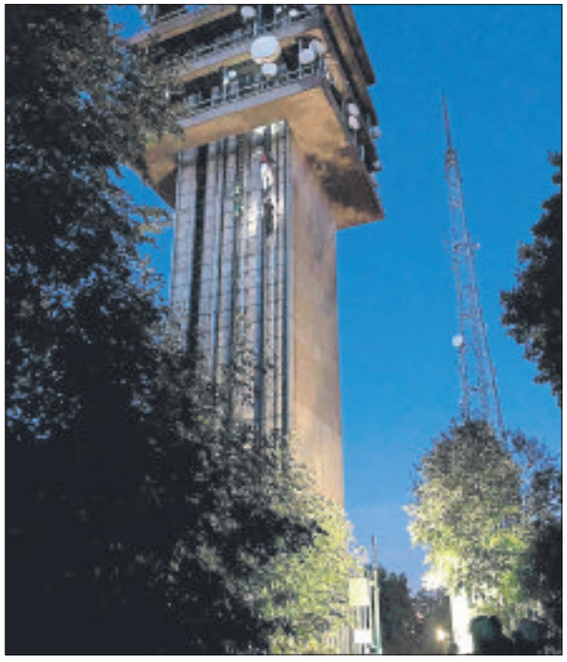
## Bus service on track for 2022 Games

BUS travel in Walsall, Sandwell and Birmingham is to be transformed in the run-up to the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

The new tram-style buses will have off-board ticketing and multiple-door boarding as well as dedicated bus lanes and priority through areas of congestion. Details are revealed in plans for the first three Sprint routes to be built in time for the Games being held in Birmingham and parts of the Black Country.

One of the services will operate along the A34 between Walsall and Birmingham via Sandwell, with a journey time of 40 minutes or less, ferrying passengers between the athletes' village and event locations.

The Alexander Stadium and a newly-built aquatic centre in Smethwick will be key venues.



Emergency services make their way up the telecoms tower

## 'Heroes' scale 200ft tower for rescue

RESCUE teams have been praised after scaling a 200ft tower to reach a stranded and vulnerable man.

The man, thought to be in his 20s, had climbed a telecoms tower on Turners Hill in Oldbury.

Medics and the fire service's rope rescue team displayed 'amazing heroism' to bring him safely back down on Friday evening, police chiefs said.

Chief Inspector Jack Hadley of West Midlands Police, said: "Outstanding response to a stranded male in crisis. Amazing heroism shown by West Midlands Ambulance Service and West Midlands Fire Service's specialist rope rescue teams working together to rescue the man.

"Glad to say the brilliant response meant he got down safely and is now being supported. Much respect."

The rescued man is now in the care of a mental health team, paramedics have said.

Meanwhile, on Saturday from around 6.40am, the M6 was closed for more than five hours at Junction 10 for Walsall after a man climbed over the railings on the bridge over the motorway.

Motorists faced 90-minute delays in both directions.

## Teenage pair locked up for moped theft

TWO teenagers have been locked up after another youngster was threatened with a knife and had his moped stolen from a supermarket car park.

Thomas Jellyman was threatened with a kitchen knife with an eight-inch blade as he sat on his bike in the car park of Asda, St Lawrence Way, Darlaston, on August 26, 2016, Mr Richard McConaghy, prosecuting, toldf Wolverhampton Crown Court.

Mr Jellyman reported the robbery to police. The moped was found a couple of days later with £35 cash untouched under the seat and the suspects were arrested soon afterwards.

A month later Mr Jellyman was approached by Sell – breaking the terms of his bail – in Walsall town centre and said he would get the keys back if he dropped the charges.

The trio, all aged 19 but 17 at the time, admitted being involved. Sell from Sandwell Street, Dudley, also pleaded guilty to attempting to perverting the course of justice and was given three years detention in a Young Offenders Institution.

Bell, of no fixed address, admitted possessing a knife and got two years four months detention. Parkes of Bassett Close, Willenhall, who played a lesser role and has mental health issues, was handed a suspended sentence of 16 months detention.

## Free will writing to help hospice

A SOLICITOR'S firm is waiving the cost of one of its will writing service to raise funds for charity.

Baches Solicitors LLP, in West Bromwich, is taking part in Make A Will Fortnight, for Birmingham St Mary's Hospice, from September 3 to 17.

Visit www.birminghamhospice.org.uk/make-a-will for details.

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# RAF career 'a blessing' for serviceman Donald

**DOING acrobatics in a Jaguar fast jet aircraft and meeting the Queen are just two of the many highlights of a 36-year career in the RAF for former survival equipment technician Donald Campbell.**

He says joining the Royal Air Force, at the age of 18 in 1969, was 'a blessing' because it opened the door to many new experiences and led to him travelling the globe.

"Not many people get the chance to do acrobatics in a fast jet aircraft or travel in helicopters. I got so much more out of the RAF than I ever expected. I always tell people I went to the university of life," said the 67-year-old of Tipton, who took part in an event to mark the 100th anniversary of the RAF in Birmingham over the bank holiday.

## Marching

Having a career in the RAF had been an ambition for Mr Campbell, who now runs a chauffeur company, since a young age.

"I don't really know why but I had wanted to join from a young lad. I might have been influenced by films. I liked the idea of marching and travelling."

But it's his first deployment to Northern Ireland, as one of the reinforcement troops, which he describes as a 'real opener' that sticks in his memory. "This was during my first year and back in those days it was really pretty frightening over there," said Mr Campbell.

He was responsible for fitting and servicing equipment used on fast jet aircrafts such as Jaguar, Harrier, Tornado, Hawks and a variety of helicopter.

Donald when he joined the RAF at 18

Donald now runs a chauffeur firm

His years of service saw him travel to Germany, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sardinia, Saudi, Falkland Islands and the USA.

"I have been to so many wonderful places that I wouldn't have travelled to if I hadn't been in the RAF. I spent two months in Madagascar which was fantastic. Another highlight was meeting the Queen as leader of my group when she visited one of her stations, RAF Marham im Norfolk.

"The RAF taught me skills in communication, listening and working with other people which I use in my chauffeur business today," said Mr Campbell.

He retired as a warrant officer in 2006 and his final years were in charge of his Trade Training School at RAF Cosford's Defence College of Aeronautical Engineering.

During his career Mr Campbell was awarded two commendations for meritorious service, one of which was in conjunction with the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2002 and a Good Show Award for an outstanding personal contribution to the work of the Careers Information Service 2004.


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The company's showroom at its base is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and Saturday, 10am to 4pm. It offers a wide range of products in various sizes and colours, manufactured using PVCu, aluminium, GRP and hardwood. Carera also installs entrance doors, sliding patio doors, french double doors and porches.

Carera Windows has fitted more than half a million quality windows and doors

Carera prides itself on offering honest and professional expert advice

Carera Windows was started by owner and managing director Mark Crumpton in 1989, originally from home as a small enterprising double glazing company supplying the local area. Its housing association glazing contracts and commercial premises work now also takes the business across the country. Carera prides itself on offering honest and professional expert advice, installing 100 per cent high quality products, sensible prices and outstanding customer service.

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# Prison riots 'could have been stopped' says leaked report

**PRISON riots at HMP Birmingham should and could have been prevented, according to a secret report.**

The chairman of the prison's Independent Monitoring Board said the potential for serious unrest should have been foreseen and that a combination of staff cuts and a rising prison population was a 'recipe for disaster'.

Operators G4S have since lost control of the Winson Green prison. The Government will run it for at least six months. The Government report said the riot 'could and should have been prevented' and that staff 'had, in the preceding year, become worn down by chronic staffing shortages'.

The report said staff 'had gradually relinquished authority to the prisoners who were in effect policing themselves for much of the time'.

### Morale

The president of the Governors' Association, Andrea Albutt, said declining morale among workers led to an environment where the prisoners were allowed to take control.

Roger Swindells, chairman of the Independent Monitoring Board, said: "It's very simple. If you take 40 per cent out of the budget, if you cut staffing by 30 per cent, if you increase prisoner numbers, you are creating a recipe for disaster and the disaster on this occasion landed on Birmingham's doorstep."

The Government commissioned a report into the riot but said it was 'not appropriate to release any part' of it because it could 'compromise security arrangements'. However, parts of the report have been leaked in an ITV documentary after being made available

## Young fan surprised by Albion stars

Albion midfielder Chris Brunt and striker Dwight Gayle took time with super fan William Bayley

A YOUNG Albion fan who watched his team scored seven goals at The Hawthorns against QPR was in seventh heaven yet again – when two star players visited him.

Superfan William Bayley was left stunned when two of the first team stars turned up at his Aldridge home for a surprise visit.

Midfielder Chris Brunt and striker Dwight Gayle took time out to meet the seven-year-old season ticket holder, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour at the age of two.

After undergoing immediate emergency surgery, the brave youngster started on chemotherapy to clear any cancerous cells left behind.

He has been undergoing intermittent chemotherapy since and his family are now hopeful he is heading towards the end of treatment.

The visit came as part of the 'Albion Stars' programme. The life-long Baggies fanatic played football with his heroes in his back garden.

The players, who signed keepsakes for the youngster, also surprised William with a personalised home shirt and tickets to the next Hawthorns fixture against Stoke City.

William will attend the match with his brother Alex, four, and parents Josette, 39, and Mark, 45. Josette said: "William had absolutely no idea it was going to happen."

## Disqualified driver given eight months

AN 'intelligent' university graduate, who did not have the sense to stop a car under police orders has been jailed for eight months.

Banned motorist Vijay Mattu drove into trouble when he was spotted at the wheel of a Kia in Smethwick High Street on July 24. The 25-year-old made off when the patrol car activated its siren and blue lights, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. He ignored a no-entry sign and hurtled down a one-way street in the wrong direction at 50 mph.

Mattu careered through a red light before turning off his headlamps while escaping from a cul-de-sac he had turned into, said Mr Mark Stephens, prosecuting.

The Kia, on false plates, struck the kerb at speed, deflating a tyre before he lost control, swept across a T-junction and smashed into a fence, causing £500 damage. He told police the Kia belonged to his girlfriend.

Mr Timothy Harrington, defending, said: "He was driving when he should not have done and panicked. He is an educated man with a university degree who wishes to return to the offence-free life he led until last year."

The defendant, from Station Road, Handsworth, admitted dangerous driving, driving while disqualified and without insurance. He was banned for three years on his release from jail.

## Chainsaw theft from van captured on CCTV

TWO thieves were captured on CCTV breaking into a van and taking off with chainsaws.

The footage also shows them stealing other equipment from the locked van belonging to Hortech Ltd of Stone, Staffordshire The incident happened when the car was parked in Toll End Road, Tipton, between 8.50am and 11.45am on August 21.

## Owners hit out as pubs in dog ban

JD Wetherspoon is banning dogs from all of its 936 pubs.

The chain, which has sites across the Black Country and Staffordshire, has said no dogs except assistance dogs will be allowed into its pubs from September 10. It comes after staff complained about cleaning up dog mess and raised issues of hygiene and the pets scaring children.

Wetherspoons spokesman Eddie Gershon said: "Even well-behaved dogs can be unpredictable, every dog owner thinks their dog is perfect. We welcome a lot of children and families. Younger children in particular can be unpredictable around dogs."

Dog owners have hit out at the company's decision. Carol Henley, 71, from Dudley, said: "My son has two Bulldogs. He lives in Birmingham and they can take their dogs in nearly every pub they go to."


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# Group facing backlash over mosque plan

A GROUP has become embroiled in a planning row for the second time in two years over a proposed mosque.

The scheme, planned for Smethwick, has led to hundreds of comments on a community Facebook page saying it will cause serious traffic problems.

But the Gambian Islamic Centre has said fears its proposed community centre and mosque on Bearwood Road would lead to parking chaos are unfounded.

The application wants to convert a former solicitor's office into a place of worship, which could accommodate 250 people.

More than 400 comments have appeared on the Bearwood page against the plans. Clare Bragg said: "To accommodate that many people will just cause even more chaos and traffic jams."

Terry Jessop said: "Let's say 250 do pray Friday, and 100 use cars, where can I ask do they expect to park?"

Other posts pointed out that in 2016, the Gambian Islamic Centre was ordered to close its former mosque on Windmill Lane, Cape Hill, because of parking problems.

The application is expected to be heard by Sandwell Council's planning committee in October.

Lamin Yaffa, centre chairman, said: "Smethwick is our home and our followers live in and around this area, so many of them will walk to or use public transport to come to pray."

# Thousands deeply Dippy about dinosaur

DIPPY the Dino is attracting thousands of visitors to Birmingham since arriving at the city's Museum and Art Gallery in May.

The Natural History Museum's famous Diplodocus has brought in more than 200,000 visitors. The attraction remains until September 9.

Alan Halsall leads the players onto the pitch

Chris Bisson meets the fans

Dickie Dodd with the Co-operative mascots

Down to business as Allstars play Co-op Midcounties at Rushall Olympic FC

Trevor Lynch shouts instructions

Andy Whyment with fans Katie Ralph, Payton Ralph-Adams, and Bev Ralph

# Soap stars clean up at match

**SOAP stars took to the pitch to raise money for charity and despite the wet weather hundreds supported.**

Some of the biggest names from Hollyoaks, Emmerdale and Coronation Street took the trip from Manchester to Walsall on Sunday to play against a Midcounties Co-op team at Rushall Olympic FC's very wet and rainy Dales Lane ground. Hollyoaks' Nick Pickard and Jacob Roberts, Coronation Street's Alan Halsall and Andy Whyment, Emmerdale's Anthony Quinlan and Ryan Giggs' brother Rhodri, were among the names that turned out for the the Jet2 TV Allstars team.

The event raised money for local charities Street Teams, Beacon Vision, The Mase Group, ALZ Cafe and Codsall Village Hall with Co-op aiming to make more than £10,000 to be divided among the groups. Andy Whyment, who has played Kirk Sutherland in Coronation Street since 2003, said: "We always enjoy it whatever the weather. It's always nice to get a good reception from the crowd too. "

"Me and Alan took it in turns playing between right-back and right-wing, he's 36 and I'm 37 now so we haven't got the legs anymore. We play a lot of charity games throughout the year and making the money for the causes is what it's all about."

Alan Halsall, who plays Tyrone Dobbs in Coronation Street, said: "It's typical, we've had such a great summer and then we get this weather. But it's still been a great day. All these people came out in the rain to help us raise money and awareness so that's great."

Giggs scored the winner goal in a 2-1 victory for the stars. He said: "I've been to a lot of Midcounties Co-op events over the years so I come to the midlands and the Black Country a fair bit and it's always nice."

Sukie Rapal, head of digital at Midcounties Co-op, said: "Despite the weather, this is absolutely fantastic."


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# Groups hits back over mosque bid

A PROPOSED mosque has seen a local Muslim group embroiled in a planning row for the second time in two years.

The scheme planned for Smethwick has led to hundreds of comments on Facebook, saying it will cause serious traffic problems. But the Gambian Islamic Centre has said fears its proposed community centre and mosque on Bearwood Road would lead to parking chaos are unfounded.

Lamin Yaffa, the group's chairman, defended the application which is asking permission to convert a former solicitor's office on into a place of worship, which could accommodate 250 people.

More than 400 comments have appeared on the Bearwood page against the plans.

Clare Bragg said: "To accommodate that many people will just cause even more chaos and traffic jams. And sadly a lot of people will just park wherever they can, regardless whether they should or not."

Terry Jessop said: "Well everyone at the moment complains about parking as it is, can you imagine how bad it will be, let's say 250 do pray Friday, and 100 use cars, where can I ask do they expect to park."

Other posts pointed out that in 2016, the Gambian Islamic Centre was ordered to close its former mosque on Windmill Lane, Cape Hill because of parking problems.

Lamin Yaffa said: "Smethwick is our home and our followers live in and around this area, so many of them will walk to or use public transport to come to pray. The busiest time will be Friday prayers but we don't see 50 or 60 cars turning up to block local roads and during the rest of the week we expect maybe only ten to 15 people a day using the centre."

The planning application is expected to be heard by Sandwell Council's planning committee in October.

# Take-off for tower on list

The iconic Elmdon control tower

AN ICONIC airport terminal has been saved after being given protected status by Historic England.

The Elmdon terminal and control tower at Birmingham Airport, which was opened by the Duchess of Kent in 1939, has been given grade II-listed status in recognition of its cultural importance and means it will be protected from demolition in the future.

The building – which is also known as the Art Deco terminal – was widely used until 1984. Since then it has specialised in private flight for wealthy individuals, VIPs and royalty as well as being used as offices for airport staff until its closure earlier this year.

Historic England chief executive Duncan Wilson said: "The list is a treasure trove of special historic places that demonstrates the rich variety of England's history.

"Reaching 400,000 entries is a milestone – it confirms just how important our heritage is and how much deserves protecting for future generations."

Culture Secretary Jeremy Wright said: "This landmark highlights the huge diversity of historic places that we have protected and the integral role heritage plays in our culture."

# M6 shut for five hours after climb

A SECTION of the M6 near Walsall was closed for more than five hours after a vulnerable man climbed over the railings of a bridge on the motorway.

Drivers were stuck with delays of more than 90 minutes in both directions after the incident at the bridge over junction 10.

Police reported he had safely come down, and the road was fully reopened, by midday on Saturday. Officers said he was detained under the mental health act.

# Lookers hits a peak in West Midlands leg of a blinding fundraising challenge

In Peaky Blinders gear at Mercedes-Benz Walsall

Report by John Corser

NATIONAL motor retailer Lookers has completed the West Midlands leg of the biggest charity drive in its history – the Lookers Electric Charge including staff dressing as characters from hit BBC TV drama Peaky Blinders

The carbon-neutral challenge in aid of motor industry charity Ben will eventually see a relay of electric and hybrid vehicles travel 2,000 miles down the country to destinations including all 154 of the retailer's franchised dealerships, where a range of weird and wonderful fundraising events are being held.

The relay started in Dublin in May and has travelled through Scotland, the North East, Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside and has now finished its West Midlands leg. Staff have been hard at work raising money by holding bake sales and raffles, as well as driving their electric vehicles dressed as everything from Batman and Robin in Mercedes-Benz Wolverhampton to Hawaiian Hula Girls at Stafford's Knights BMW and MINI Stafford.

Mercedes-Benz Walsall played host to members of the Shelby crime family from Peaky Blinders, the Birmingham-based period drama which is partly filmed at the Black Country Living Museum.

Lookers chief executive Andy Bruce said: "The effort that everyone has put in to make this fund-raising project such a huge success has been really heart-warming.

"Ben is a fantastic charity that does so much to support those people in the motor industry that are in need, so it's great to be able to give back in this way."

Zara Ross, chief executive at Ben, said: "We have been following the Lookers Electric Charge since it started in May and have been blown away by how much they've embraced the challenge.

"It's certainly given us more than a few laughs."

# Groups hope they can buy church which faces closure

Report by Alex Ross

**THREE community groups in Tipton have expressed an interest in buying a church which faces closure.**

The Grade II-listed St Martin and St Paul Church will close under a current application from the Diocese of Lichfield.

The proposal to shut the Gothic church built in 1837 is down to a lack of resources for building maintenance. However, Tipton Community Association, Tipton Civic Society and St Paul's Community Association have contacted the diocese about buying the church.

Civic Society chairman Keith Hodgkins said the joint venture could solve a problem faced by all three groups, with their limited premises. He said: "There are two reasons behind this – to find a new use for the building; if it is closing we do not want to see it deteriorate and eventually disappear.

"Then there is a need for large performance space for both the Tipton Community Association and St Paul's Community Association. Both have bases which are now too small for their needs."

He added: "What we have done is make an expression of interest that we would be interested in acquiring the building. We now wait to hear back from the diocese."

Tipton Community Association is based at Brook Street Community Centre, while St Paul's Community Association is located in Brick Kiln Street.

## Exhibitions

Mr Hodgkins said the church, which already has its permanent pews removed, could provide a space for musical shows and plays as well as exhibitions and meetings.

He said he hoped the church could still be used for religious services: "So many people have memories of the church, it'd be a real shame for it to go. We, as a community, believe we can secure its future."

Closure of the church was first raised three years after the retirement of the incumbent. Then, in the same year, it was discussed at a public meeting. An interim minister was appointed to help with the potential closure.

Under the plans, the congregation will be moved to St Matthews Church, also in Tipton.

A spokesman for the diocese said:

"There are plans to close St Martin and St Paul in Tipton as part of a wider proposal to reorganise local parishes.

"Provision has been made for worshippers from St Martin and St Paul to use the hall at nearby St John's Church as a meeting place for worship."

The consultation on the church closure ends on September 24.

# When Sally met Andy for latest comedy

The husband and wife acting team of Sally and Andy Worley as married couple Barry and Gen in the forthcoming comedy Conjugal Rites

THE stage will be home from home for one couple with Oldbury Rep's latest production, as the married pair will take the leading roles in the popular comedy Conjugal Rites, by Roger Hall, to kick off the new season.

Sally and Andy Worley are bravely taking their life experiences onto stage with them, in the Rep's latest production, to probe the agony and the ecstasy of that somewhat dwindling institution – marriage.

Barry, a dentist, and his wife Gen are in bed when the comedy begins. They are about to celebrate their 21st wedding anniversary and we see the couple discussing their marriage and life together. Barry, for example, has difficulty accepting that Gen wants to have a career and, indeed, an identity of her own. It is clear that a major shift has occurred in the power balance between the two of them, since Gen has studied for a law degree in later life, and has recently become a solicitor.

She wants to be more than merely Mrs Barry and many unexpected revelations are uncovered during the course of the play. It was first performed at the Watford Palace Theatre on 24 January 1991. It starred Nicky Henson and Gwen Taylor.The production runs from Saturday September 8-15. Performances start at 7.30pm. Tickets can be obtained by phone or in person from the box office on Monday evenings from 7.30pm and every night of the production from 7pm. Tickets are priced at £11.00 with the usual concessions at £10.00 with a special price on Monday and Tuesday evenings of £9 (no concessions). The box office can be contacted on 0121 552 2761, or book online at www.oldburyrep.org.

Meanwhile, the Rep's film screenings return with The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, starring Tom Courtney on September 28. All tickets are still just £4 and the performance starts at 7.30pm

# House of Fraser set to announce store closures

BEATTIES owner House of Fraser is set to announce a spate of store closures, with new owner Mike Ashley blaming 'greedy landlords' for potentially hundreds of job losses.

The Sports Direct tycoon, who recently bought the department store chain out of administration for £90 million, has been in tense talks with landlords over rents in recent weeks.

Those negotiations have resulted in around seven House of Frasers being saved from closure, including in Oxford Street, Telford and Plymouth. But talks are continuing with the landlords of stores such as Beatties in Wolverhampton.

Mr Ashley's property team are deep in talks with the owners the Beatties site.

The building was bought from House of Fraser for £47 million after the department chain bought the Beatties chain in 2015. It has subsequently passed through the hands of several owners. The tracksuit billionaire has now turned up the heat after warning on Tuesday that 'time is running out' for the remainder of the 59-store estate.

A spokesman for House of Fraser said: "Some landlords are being very collaborative in order to give us a chance at turning the business around, giving House of Fraser a lifeline and saving hundreds of jobs.

"However, some greedy landlords would rather see the stores close than help save the jobs of hundreds of people.

"We will continue to try and convince these landlords but ultimately time is running out. Some closures will be announced."

It is understood that landlords are reluctant to agree to the low rents Mr Ashley is demanding. Mr Ashley, who also owns Newcastle United, has pledged to save around 47 of House of Fraser's 59 outlets since buying the chain.

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## £20k win school in makeover

A PRIMARY school building is to undergo a £20,000 revamp overseen by a Smethwick firm, after winning a competition.

Bromley Pensnett Primary will see its learning hub for parents and children brought back to life after five years of inactivity and falling into disrepair.

Property management firm Novus base at Summit Crescent Industrial Estate, will oversee a full refurbishment of the building as part of the company's fifth anniversary.

A team of 10 will install a new roof, repair and redecorate the interior and exterior, fit new steps, replace doors and flooring, and install a new kitchen.

Bromley Pensnett Primary School caters for 320 children aged between three and 11.

Head Helen Tomlinson said: "Our community currently lacks many of the services so vital to parents, carers and children at the school. This project from Novus will ensure we can really increase the scope of the help and support we can offer to those who need it most."

The refurbishment comes as part of a competition by Novus to support worthwhile projects in the communities it operates in, as voted for by people in the area.

Once works have concluded the Learning Hub will provide a space where parents and carers can visit for support and advice

# Workers to return on site of unfinished landmark hospital

**IT has stood idle, gathering mould as water seeped inside, but it looks like the Midland Metropolitan Hospital in Smethwick, will soon be back on track for construction.**

Last week the Government agree more than £300 million of taxpayers' money would be laid out to finish work on the stalled project, with work getting underway, hopefully, by November.

The latest millions pledged will take the final bill for the hospital to more than half a million pounds when the scheduled opening happens in 2022 – four years later than originally planned.

In the meantime urgent repairs and weather proofing work is needed at the site, which has been at the mercy of the elements –a prolonged winter, combined with the searing heat of recent months, – since building company Carillion collapsed in January.

Up to £20 million will be spent, to secure the site from further weather damage before the winter, so construction work by a new contractor can start, in earnest, next spring. Despite the best efforts of maintenance staff to protect the vast site from the worst of the wind and rain over the last seven months, some areas inside are suffering from mould where water has seeped in.

A handful of former Carillion workers have been kept at the site by the Sandwell & West Birmingham NHS Trust.

Left as an emerging landmark in Smethwick

Rob Maiden, among the scaffolding and girders in place for eight months

Rob with some of the problem plasterboard

Rob Maiden, the former safety manager on the construction site, said all plasterboarding in the building would need to be checked for damp to ensure there was no further risk of mould.

### Frustrating

"Some of it will have to be replaced, along with some of the building materials that have run out of date, like the adhesives, and some of the metalwork that won't be able to be salvaged," he said. He admitted it had been "sad and really frustrating" to see work on the project stalled for so many months.

One area of mould is above and around a window on the second level – what will become a clinical and medical floor – overlooking an interior courtyard. Mr Maiden said the water was thought to have got in through an uncapped concrete parapet on the fifth level.

He said there were also concerns about parts of the expensive air conditioning system. "It had to be installed during the construction so, if it has to be replaced it could mean having to remove panels from the outside walls."

When Carillion collapsed the company had around 70 people at the site, but since April there have been just six or seven to cover the whole building.

Plastic sheeting has been used to keep the water out of vulnerable areas and much of the metalwork waiting to be installed is already weatherproofed, but Richard Molloy, the former Carillion finance director for the project, admitted it was 'impossible' to keep all the water out. Mr Molloy, part of the original bidding team for the project back in 2015, said it had been 'frustrating' watching the empty building deteriorate despite their best efforts.

But he stressed: "The structure of the building is absolutely fine, as is the facade that surrounds it."

West Midlands Mayor Andy Street said: "The collapse of Carillion left everybody involved in this project in a challenging situation That we have successfully found a way forward is testament to the work of the Trust, Government and local partners."


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# Ghost town shock at once-thriving centre

Poolway Shopping Centre in Garretts Green, Birmingham

The rear of the properties which are derelict

SHOCKING pictures have shown how a once-thriving shopping centre became a ghost town just months after closing. The derelict and neglected Poolway Shopping Centre in Garretts Green, Birmingham, now displays rows of shuttered shops despite once being home to pet, toy and bike shops and a medical centre.

Built in 1961, only two shops in the block remain open with two families in the flats above them while they wait to be relocated. The site was compulsory purchased by Birmingham City Council and is set to be the new home for Birmingham Museums Trust. It will eventually replace the museum's collection centre in the Nechells area and will

# History of Acorns set to blossom with grant

**THE ground-breaking history of a Black Country based charity will be preserved for future generations thanks to a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).**

In a project, Acorns Children's Hospice will record milestone moments from its rich 30-year history to display in a grand exhibition for members of the public.

By Heather Large

The Acorns Story Box Project, made possible thanks to a grant of £34,700, will form the lasting legacy of the charity's 30th anniversary celebrations.

Acorns 30th Anniversary Campaign Manager, Sarah Bowron, said: "We're very excited to reveal that our application to the Heritage Lottery Fund has been successful. I believe it is vital to capture our history and we're delighted that we've received the support of National Lottery players.

"Not only will the Acorns Story Box project help others understand our historical significance as pioneers in the children's hospice movement, it will also enable us to share our learning and show the impact of our work over the past three decades."

A team of dedicated staff and volunteers will collect 30 oral history interviews with key individuals past and present who represent Acorns varied and remarkable family.

Acorns unmissable bright orange Story Box caravan will also be touring the region, with the charity inviting members of the public to share their own favourite memories of the last 30 years.

For more information about Acorns Story Box project or to find out when the caravan will be coming to a town or city near you, visit www.acorns.org.uk/storybox.

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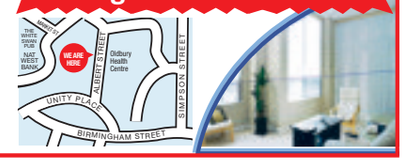


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# Half planning on no-deal Brexit, survey reveals

HALF of people across the West Midlands expect a 'no deal' Brexit and plan to spend accordingly, a new survey has found.

The survey of 279 members of the public in the region was commissioned by KPMG. Overall 50 per cent said a 'no deal' Brexit was likely and 20 per cent that it was unlikely.

A clear majority of the region's respondents believe a no-deal scenario would have a significant impact on their life with 69 per cent thinking prices would rise and 68 per cent saying they would change their consumer behaviour. Some 45 per cent believe a no-deal will be bad for the country while 22 per cent think it will be good.

Karl Edge, Midlands regional chairman of KPMG, said: "This survey shows the public expect a 'no deal' Brexit and plan to spend accordingly.

The results reveal how people are anticipating substantial disruption in the short to medium term, before they expect Brexit to have a more positive effect on the economy in the medium to long term.

In terms of behavioural change in the event of a 'no-deal' Brexit 40 per cent in the West Midlands said they were very likely or likely to cut everyday spending, 42 per cent said they were very likely or likely to cut non-essential spending, 45 per cent very likely or likely to cut luxury spending and 49 per cent that they were very likely or likely to delay major purchases.

# Burst pipe causes misery for drivers

A BURST water main caused misery for residents and drivers in Great Barr.

The pipe went in Chapel Lane, on Thursday morning. Drivers were taken on an eight-mile diversion because a stretch was closed between the junctions of Coronation Road and Crook Lane.

Sandwell Mayor Councillor Joy Edis, left, and Deputy Councillor Carol Goult

Jaguar LandRover at the i54 estate

Wolverhampton Mayor Councillor Phil Page

Councillor Marco Longhi is serving a second term as Walsall Mayor

Dudley Council leader Patrick Harley

Cars like this Jaguar XJ are used to carry out official council duties

# £133k spent on council Jags

**THOUSANDS of pounds of taxpayers' cash is being spent on luxury cars for mayors and council officials, figures have revealed.**

A Freedom of Information request by the TaxPayers' Alliance has revealed big spending on posh Jaguars for mayors and other council officials across the Black Country and Staffordshire. The Alliance have called it 'excessive' when most councils are already strapped for cash, and are calling for mayors to use their own vehicles or even public transport to attend events.

But authority chiefs have hit back, saying the role of mayor is a 'prestigious' and 'historic' one which warrants its own car. They also say they are supporting a local company and jobs by only buying or leasing Jaguars. JLR has a factory on the i54 site, near Wolverhampton, and is building a brand new huge showroom on the Penn Road in the city.

Figures show that overall councils in the Black Country spent about £89,000 since 2015 on various high class transport, while Staffordshire County Council spent £44,000 on the running of a Jaguar XJL. In the Black Country, Walsall council spent £31,387.60 on using and maintaining both a Jaguar XJ 3.0 V6 Portfolio (2013) and Jaguar XJ 2.7 Sovereign (2007) over the last three years, Dudley spent £24,668.60 on a Jaguar XF (Luxury) 2.0 V6 Diesel, Wolverhampton spent £22,584 on a Jaguar XJ, and Sandwell spent £10,383.90 on a Jaguar XJ 30L.

Councillor Steve Eling, leader of Sandwell Council, said: "Sandwell Council does not lease any luxury vehicles for use by the mayor or councillors. The council owns a number of vehicles, which are used to take the mayor, deputy mayor, cabinet members and officers to meetings, events and other commitments that they are required to attend in Sandwell and around the West Midlands where it is appropriate to do so."


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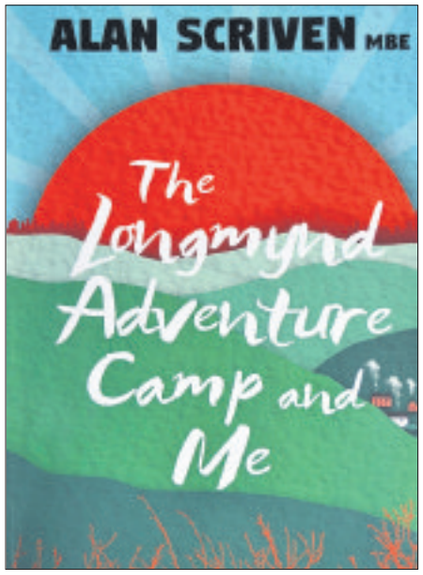
The original 'skipper' Bill Williams with youngsters during the 1977 camp

Boys take part in a sack race during a sports day in 1983

This is the life – youngsters eating a meal around an open fire in 1959




Alan's first book, The Longmynd Adventure Camp and Me

# Holiday in hills which helped lads achieve a better Mynd-set for life

**MEMORY LANE**

Report by Toby Neal

**FIRST came the adventure in the hills, then came the thank you letters.**

The young lads from underprivileged backgrounds in Wolverhampton, Birmingham, and the Black Country had never seen anything like it.

Plonked in tents in the shadow of the Long Mynd in the Shropshire Hills, they washed in a brook, sang round a camp fire, roamed the countryside, played games, and generally enjoyed the fresh air. This was the Longmynd Adventure Camp, which this year is celebrating its diamond anniversary.

The late Bill Williams was the Shropshire country policeman who started it all, with his idea of giving a camping holiday for underprivileged boys from the urban areas of the West Midlands. It linked up with a holiday scheme run by the then-Women's Voluntary Service.

"Dear Mr Bill Williams, I'm so glad you had invited me to stay at the camp for 10 days. Thank you for the food that we had. Will you write back to say that we did see a ghost, because my mum doesn't believe me," wrote Andrew Buxton, of Shirley, Solihull.

"Dear Skipper, I hope you are feeling well. Thank you for the beautiful holiday that you gave me and for the songs that you learned me," wrote Clive Pearce.

And another letter, from a helper: "Dear Sir, As you can see by the above address (Her Majesty's Prison, The Dana, Shrewsbury) things have changed for me since our last meeting . . . I will always remember all the great songs we sang, especially your daughter Debbie's favourite, There's A Worm At The Bottom of the Garden. Brilliant! I am sorry for letting you down Mr Williams."

Bill was from a tough background himself. He was brought up in a two-up two-down terrace house in Wellington. With no water supply or bathroom, they had a tin bath, and the toilets were earth closets at the top of the yard. He was only five when his father died, leaving his mother struggling to feed and clothe the family on a widow's pension.

In the first camp some boys stayed in tents in the garden of his police house at Wistanstow, near Craven Arms, in 1958, which gave him the idea to run a venture which would give holidays to young boys who had never had one. Thanks to helpful farmers, from then on annual camps were held at a number of different locations in the shadow of the Long Mynd. At the time, Alan Scriven was a five-year-old living in poverty in a single-parent family at Fifth Avenue in Low Hill, Wolverhampton. When he first went to the camp in 1965 it was to change his life – so much so that he was to follow Bill as its 'Skipper' and the man known as 'Scriv' was to be awarded the MBE for his 33 years' involvement.

Alan, who worked for a time as a traffic manager, wrote a book detailing the story of the camp, but has now penned a follow-up, called More From The Longmynd Adventure Camp and Me. There was, incidentally, a girls' camp started around the late 60s which Alan says did not stand the test of time for various reasons, 'one of them being the unsatisfactory behaviour of the young ladies – bless them'.

Some of those from Bill and Alan's times are now planning a 60th anniversary celebration.

Alan, who lives in Moseley, Wolverhampton, writes: "The Longmynd Adventure Camp changed a lot of people's lives, not just the lads who were lucky enough to be selected. There were many kind souls who came along at different parts of the camp's life who willingly offered whatever they could to help the lads enjoy the experience." Alan's book is published by Heddon Publishing at www.heddonpublishing.com

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, August 30, 2018

# Timeless style still a winner in showrooms

## ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

with John Ridgway of Perry & Phillips

**OUR last auction saw us selling some pieces of lovely Ercol furniture for extremely good prices – so I thought this week we could look at what makes this style so hugely popular today.**

Firstly, there is a wide range to choose from and a number of these pieces proved to be the subjects of some fierce bidding during our recent sale.

An Ercol elm Windsor glazed bookcase on cupboard, in a light colour, sold for £230, while an Ercol elm Windsor writing bureau with fall front, two doors and one drawer went for £110 and an Ercol elm book trolley made £90.

Ercol has long been famous for producing sleek and stylish furniture, the company dating back to 1920 when it was founded in High Wycombe by Italian designer Lucian Ercolani (hence the name!).

Lucian's goal was to produce the best in design and craftsmanship and in 1944 he was contracted by the Board of Trade to supply a number of low-cost Windsor chairs.

The family-run company used elm because they could 'steam bend' it, this proved to be a great idea and the company went from strength to strength, selling affordable furniture to very keen post-war buyers.

These mass-produced items became hugely popular in the 1940s and 1950s, the famous Windsor Kitchen Chair was bought by millions of people and Ercol became a household name in terms of stylish yet affordable furniture.

The sleek, timeless design continued to prove appealing into the 1960s, the Ercol Butterfly Chair being another trademark piece, and the range expanded over the decades to include wardrobes, bookcases, sideboards, tables and cabinets.

Other classic designs were the Stacking Chair, the Loveseat and the Plank table, all of which are sought after in the saleroom.

Ercol is amongst those designs of furniture that never seem to go out of fashion, largely because they fit seemlessly into almost any room setting, regardless of whether that room is in a period house or a contemporary one.

As with all vintage and pre-loved furniture check before you buy for any signs of wear and tear.

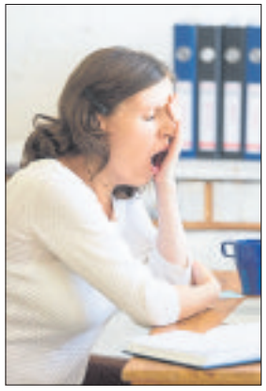
See you at the next sale of antiques and collectibles!

*** The next Perry and Phillips sale of antiques and collectables will take place at the Mill Street saleroom, Low Town, Bridgnorth on Tuesday, October 2, from 10.30am.**

*** Viewing is during the weekend and on Monday prior to the sale and catalogues are available from the saleroom or online at www.perryandphillips.co.uk. Newcomers to the auction should arrive in plenty of time to register and be allocated a bidding number and bids may be made (by prior arrangement) over the phone or left with the auctioneer.**

*** Perry and Phillips hold valuation days, for sale items only, every Wednesday from 10am until 4pm.**

# Could you be suffering from a sleep disorder?



Overwork can impair your sleep

**FEELING your eyelids flutter when you should be concentrating at work? Liz Connor looks into why you might be feeling fatigued...**

There are plenty of reasons (both self-inflicted or otherwise) why you might arrive at work feeling slightly worse for wear and yawning into your third Americano.

Sleepless nights are never fun, but all of us will experience tiredness at some point throughout our lives, and the odd disrupted night of sleep isn't usually a cause for concern. If you find yourself frequently nodding off and fighting sleep at work though, it could be a sign that something else is up.

What could be the reasons for your persistent sleepiness? Here, Matthew Reed, founder of health insurance company Equipsme.com explains just a few.

**1. Stress**

"It's a sad but true reality that stress has become part of our everyday lives, and unfortunately work is usually one of the main contributors," says Reed.

Stress can be physically and emotionally exhausting; it's how our bodies react to situations that our mind deems threatening, uncomfortable or perilous. "Usually, your heart rate will increase, breathing quickens and blood pressure rises, so dealing with stress is key to prevent feeling the need to have a nap during work hours," he explains.

"Try deep breathing, taking a break from your screen or confiding in someone close to you, to relieve some of the burden. "

**2. Overworking**

"Overworking goes hand-in-hand with stress and often produces the same results. It can seriously impair your sleep, leaving you feeling groggy and exhausted," says Reed.

"Not only does overworking increase your chances of dropping off at your desk, along with a myriad of other issues, but it's actually bad for your employer in the long run. Productivity often falls if employees reach the end of their tether and experience burnout. If you feel as if your boss has given you far too much work and you truly believe it's negatively affecting your health, Reed says you should speak to management and see if you can divide your workload more fairly.

**3. Poor diet**

We all know that diet has a serious effect on how you feel. "If you don't have enough iron, for example, then you could be left feeling sluggish, weak and distracted," says Reed.

"If you do find yourself struggling to keep your eyes open next time you're working on a serious project, think about what it is you've eaten recently and consider adapting your diet to promote a healthier and more active lifestyle. If you aren't sure whether your diet could be a contributing factor, start a food diary. Too much sugar or fat, for instance, can result in energy crashes throughout the day.

"Instead of eating sugary snacks, try and fuel yourself with natural energy sources such as quinoa, honey, spinach and even peanut butter."

**4. Sleep disorders**

"Falling asleep persistently throughout the day or feeling groggy could be a sign that you're struggling with a sleep disorder.

"Excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS), sleep apnea and narcolepsy are all sleep disorders that can cause you to not get enough sleep at night," says Reed.

Hoping to help – Hannah with a client

Power of herbs – Hannah is proof they work

# Herbs can heal and I'm the proof, says Hannah

In the mix – getting ingredients

**HANNAH Charman was just 15 years old when she had the shock of her life and suddenly found she was struggling to walk.**

By Lisa Harrison

Her mystery illness drained all her energy, leaving her exhausted all the time and missing months of lessons.

But her family struggled to convince her doctor, who believed her symptoms were down to Hannah just being 'a malingerer' and disliking school, that something more serious was going on.

It turned out she was suffering from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, which commonly causes extreme tiredness and makes it hard for someone to carry out ordinary daily activities.

With no one else to turn to in mainstream medicine, Hannah's parents took her to see a homeopathic doctor in London and this was a moment which she says she will never forget.

Not only did she get the help she desperately needed to say goodbye to the condition, but the experience also had a major influence on her future career.

Until then she had wanted to be a vet, but suddenly her path changed and she studied for an honours degree in western herbal medicine for four years at Middlesex University. Now, with her business Physic Health Consulting, she has clinics in Perton and Tettenhall, where she helps patients through a combination of herbal medicine, health coaching and reiki.

Looking back on her illness, Hannah, who is mother to three-year-old Jacob, says: "My dad picked me up from school one day and by the time he had parked up I couldn't get out of the car.

"It came on in 10 minutes and I was ill for weeks but just thought it was a bad virus. However, it was a year later, when I was 15, and was going to catch a bus that I suddenly found I couldn't walk properly.

"I somehow managed to get back home and then I was off school for months. My doctor told me I was a malingerer and that I had a problem with school.

"None of that was true – my dad was having to hold me up just to get me into the doctors surgery. It was awful that I was just seen as being lazy."

Hannah said it was a combination of homeopathy, hypnotherapy and reiki which cured her condition.

"After not having any luck with the doctor my parents took me to Harley Street in London to see a homeopathic doctor and he was the first person to take me seriously.

"Homeopathy drastically improved my condition in just a few weeks, and hypnotherapy and reiki saw off the last of it.

During her work she sees a lot of patients that struggle with a range of problems from stress, anxiety and fatigue to depression, high blood pressure and eczema.

Treatments are personalised according to each patient, often combining health coaching with herbal medicine to overhaul their diet and lifestyle, so that within six to eight weeks they see a big difference.

Hannah says there are many every day items that you may already have around the house which can bring many benefits. Chamomile tea is wonderful for soothing screaming babies, especially those that won't go to sleep.

The 41-year-old's other tips including keeping an aloe vera plant. "They are so useful. You can use the fresh gel to soothe minor sunburn or heat rash," explains Hannah. "A couple of bruised cardamom pods in hot water makes a calming tea for tummy bugs and indigestion," she adds.

"It's easy to soothe ear ache with an oat compress. Make sure it's comfortably warm before putting it onto the affected ear."

**● For more information go to www.physichealth.uk**

# Legendary Hoy rides into venue

Olympic legend Sir Chris Hoy rides into Birmingham to talk about his new book and his incredible career in cycling.

One of Great Britain's most successful Olympic athletes of all time, the six-time gold medallist was voted 2008 BBC Sports Personality of the Year, and was knighted in 2009. In 2016 he added to his record list of achievements when he finished the Le Mans 24 Hours race on his debut.

Sir Chris's new book, How to Ride Bike is a compelling guide to becoming a fitter and faster cyclist, and he takes the stage at Birmingham's Town Hall on September 18, from 7.30pm, to give the low-down.

Tickets start at £18. See boxoffice@thsh.co.uk or call 0121 780 4949.

Meanwhile, broadcaster Danny Baker is embarking on a series of 'one-night stands', with a stop-off in Birmingham included.

Good Time Charlie's Back comes after Baker successfully took Cradle to Grave out on the road, after which he vowed to never tour again. A dozen one-off shows were agreed instead and he will be at the Town Hall on September 17, from 7.30pm. Tickets are £22.50.

Adam Henson will take the Town Hall stage to share stories about his life, career and the running of the Costwold Farm Park on September 6, from 7pm.

The BBC Countryfile presenter will also give his thoughts on British Agriculture. Henson will answer audience questions and sign books. Tickets start at £20.50

La fille mal gardée cast

# Stage is set for ballet

THE curtain will rise on Birmingham Royal Ballet's interpretation of Frederick Ashton's La fille mal gardée (The wayward girl) next month.

Ashton's Royal Ballet production began in 1959 when the British choreographer created a new version for the Royal Ballet of London.

The full-length ballet is an engaging story and has remained a firm family favourite.

It centres on country beauty Lise, who, when she falls in love with farm lad Colas, is about to upset the apple cart. Her mother, widow Simone, has her own ideas about who her daughter should marry. Enter Thomas, a pompous and wealthy vineyard owner, and Alain, his rich son – as good-looking as a potato and smart as a turnip as well as the proud possessor of two left feet.

So Lise has a choice to make a choice – the a loaded country bumpkin or penniless, hunky farmhand? Of course, there's no contest, but Simone has other ideas. Heels are dug in and sparks fly, as a mother-daughter battle of wills ensues. La fille mal gardée mixes spectacular classical ballet with slick comedy, a clog-dancing dame and a super-cute pony.

It runs at the Birmingham Hippodrome from September 26 to 29, at 7.30pm, each night, with a Thursday matinee at 2pm and a pre-performance talk on the Friday from 6.30pm. The final day will feature a touch tour at 10.30am, a class on stage at 11.45am, an audience open day at noon and an audio description matinee starting at 2.30pm. Tickets start at £16.

# Egg-citing arena tour announced

Cirque du Soleil has announced a brand-new UK arena tour, OVO, and will perform in Birmingham in October.

For its UK debut in London in January, OVO officially became the highest-selling Cirque du Soleil performance run to visit the city. The tour comes to the Arena Birmingham stage from October 3-8.

The cast comprises 50 performing artists from 17 countries specialising in acrobatic acts. Among them is 'Black Spider', aka Alanna Baker from the United Kingdom, a gymnastics European champion in 2011 and a bronze medallist at the World Championships in 2012. Alanna, who has been training since the age of five, has travelled around the world with OVO and is now set for a return home.

Having thrilled more than five million people worldwide since it premiered in Montreal in 2009 as a Big Top show, OVO – Portuguese for egg – offers the same captivating production but on a larger scale.

OVO is a headlong rush into a colourful ecosystem teeming with life, where insects work, eat, crawl, flutter, play, fight and look for love in a non-stop riot of energy and movement. When a mysterious egg appears in their midst, the insects are awestruck and intensely curious about this iconic object that represents the enigma and cycles of their lives.

Tickets on sale now via the Cirque du Soleil website or at www.livenation.co.uk

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Central Methodist Church (Wesley Centre) Spring Head @ 5.00pm & 7.00pm
Contact Richard 07535 025298

TUESDAY
WEST BROMWICH
Oakley Gardens, Dial Lane, @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Jodie 07886 426429

WEDNESBURY
Woods Methodist Church Coronation Road, Woods Estate, @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Karen 07547 515345

TIPTON
Tipton Christian Church Waterloo Street, 3.00 pm, 5.00pm and 7.00pm
Contact Alison 07736 781487

OLDBURY
Sainsbury's, Freeth Street, @ 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Contact Ann 07815 643963

WEDNESDAY
WEST BROMWICH
Oakley Gardens, Dial Lane, @ 9.30am
Contact Jodie 07886 426429

TIPTON
Brook Street Community Centre 3, Brook Street, @ 9.00am, 11.00am, 1.00pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Lorretta 07968 656634

SMETHWICK
Dorothy Parkes Centre, Church Road, 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Mel 07935 447265

WEDNESBURY
Woods Methodist Church Coronation Road, Woods Estate, @ 9.30am
Contact Karen 07547 515345

WEDNESBURY
St Barts Church Hall Bttm Church Hill @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Jenny 0121 556 5909

WEDNESBURY
St Luke's Church, Elwell Street, Mesty Croft, 5.00pm & 7.00pm
Contact Heidi 07972 530778

BLACKHEATH
Blackheath Central Meth Church, High Street, @ 9.30am, 11.30pm, 5.00pm and 7.00pm
Contact Ann 07815 643963

THURSDAY
TIPTON
St John's Church Hall, Upper Church Lane, @ 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Contact Tracey 07505 706832

WEDNESBURY
St Bart's Church Hall, Bttm Church Hill @ 9.15am
Contact Jenny 07751 259593

GREAT BRIDGE
New Road Methodist Church, 13 Mount Street @ 7.00pm
Contact Pippa 07816 900149

WEST BROMWICH
Stone Cross Library Beverley Road @ 9.00am, 11.00am and 1.00pm
Contact Karen 07547 515345

WEST BROMWICH
Stone Cross Library, Beverley Road, @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Carole 07854 413929

SATURDAY
TIPTON
St John's Church Hall, Upper Church Lane, @ 9.00am
Contact Tracey 07505 706832

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Wednesbury Oak, Greenacre road @ 8.00am
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Or just come along Job opportunities for past and present members in this area contact Jenny on 07751 259593 for more details.

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Why not come along to one of our New Members evenings and have a look at what we do behind the scenes. Evenings will be held on Mondays at 8.30pm on the following dates17/9/18 & 12/11/18 or contact us at admin@oldburyrep.org


OldburyREP

**'CONJUGAL RITES'**
by **Roger Hall**
***8th- 15th September 2018***

Barry, a dentist, and his wife Gen are in bed when this comedy begins. They are about to celebrate their 21st wedding anniversary and we see the couple discussing their marriage, family and work.

It is clear that their lives have changed over the years and many shocking revelations are uncovered!

***Films at Oldbury Rep on the 'Screen on the Green'***

Our New Season of special screenings will begin with 'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society', starring **Tom Courtney** on **28th September.**
***All tickets still just £4.00 the performance starts at 7.30pm***

***Play prices Mon-Tue. Special price £9.00 Wed-Sat £11.00 (concessions £10.00)***

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NOMINATED Express & Star MOST POPULAR PUB of the YEAR 2018


# AT YOUR LEISURE

## Pop out for rollercoaster ride through the decades

Stars G and Kayla

Pop Music comes to the theatre, in the form of a play described as an emotionally contagious rollercoaster.

From Bruntwood Prize winner Anna Jordan, Pop Music is performed at the REP Birmingham from September 12 to 22 at 8pm most nights. The Monday, September 17 show starts at 7pm and there's a 2.30pm matinee on Thursday, September 20.

Tickets start from £10. Visit https://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk/whats-on/pop-music.html

G and Kayla's lives are a mess but they're determined to 'Have It Large'. Full of adrenaline and cheap Prosecco, the audience can follow them on an epic journey through 30 years of pop.

Can the DJ save them as they become Dancing Queens, reliving their Teenage Dream, Staying Out For The Summer and spicing up their lives? Pop makes promises it can't keep, and soon they'll discover they have more in common than their taste in tunes.

With an epic soundtrack featuring three decades of pop, expect Beyoncé, Spice Girls, Michael Jackson and more, as G and Kayla talk, twerk, drink and dance their way through the night.

All performances feature British Sign Language and captioning.

## If that's the way you Lycett, catch comic on home soil

Birmingham comic Joe Lycett is back on home soil for two upcoming dates during his 2018 tour.

Following 'If Joe Lycett Then You Should've Put a Ring On It' and 'That's the Way A-Ha A-Ha, Joe Lycett', the 30-year-old Hall Green-born funnyman is now on a 48-date tour called 'I'm About To Lose Control And I Think Joe Lycett'.

In 2012, his debut stand-up show 'Some Lycett Hot' was nominated for the Best Newcomer at the Edinburgh Comedy Awards.

The comedian, who has featured on Live At the Apollo, 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown, QI and The Royal Variety Performance, and was a contestant on the fourth series of Taskmaster, will be sharing jokes, paintings and some of the pathetic internet trolling he's been up to recently.

He performs at a sold-out Dudley Town Hall on September 7, from 8pm and at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham on November 12, 8pm. Tickets are £23.

The laughs continue with Comedy at the Cornbow, hosted by Dudley's Wayne Beese, described by Lycett as 'one of the best comperes I have ever had the pleasure of working with'.

Canadian tour-de-force Tom Stade and award-winning Alun Cochrane and Jo Enright feature on the bill at the Cornbow Hall, in Hagley Street, Halesowen on September 15.

Early bird tickets are £15 at www.ticketsource.co.uk/comedycornbow

Birmingham comic Joe Lycett

## War Horse runs again at the Hippodrome

Following eight record-breaking years in London's West End, the National Theatre's acclaimed production of War Horse returns to Birmingham Hippodrome later this year.

War Horse has been performed to more than seven million people in 11 countries and was last in Birmingham five years ago. It is being staged from October 10 to November 3.

Based on the novel by Michael Morpurgo, it tells of Albert, young Joey's beloved horse, who, at the outbreak of the First World War, is sold to the Cavalry and shipped to France. Soon, he is caught up in enemy fire and fate takes him on an extraordinary journey, serving on both sides before ending up in No Man's Land. Albert, still on his parents' farm in Devon, cannot forget Joey, and although too young to enlist, embarks on a treacherous mission to find him and bring him home.

At the heart of the moving drama are astonishing life-sized horses.

Tickets start from £29.50. See birminghamhippodrome.com or call 0844 338 5000.

## Arena date on Horizon for steel city rockers

Bring Me The Horizon will play Birmingham later this year.

The announcement comes after the quintet released the debut single Mantra from their upcoming sixth studio album, Amo.

The Sheffield rockers formed in 2004, fronted by Drop Dead owner Oliver Sykes. They released their debut album Count Your Blessings in 2006, which featured songs such as For Stevie Wonder's Eyes Only and Pray for Plagues.

The band began to break away from their deathcore sound with follow-up release Suicide Season in 2008, which was a creative, critical and commercial turning point for the band.

Their major label debut, Sempiternal, was released in 2013 and achieved gold certification in Australia and silver in the United Kingdom.

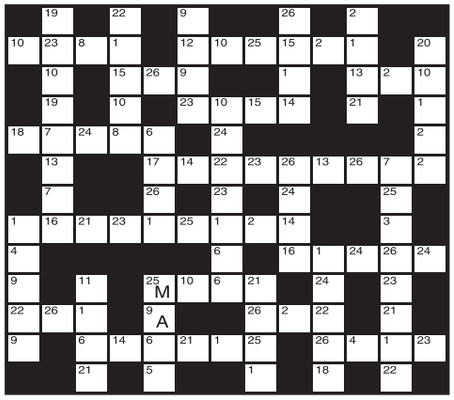
Bring Me The Horizon have received four Kerrang! Awards, including two for Best British Band and one for Best Live Band. The group will play Arena Birmingham on November 23.

# BRAIN GYM

No.495

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

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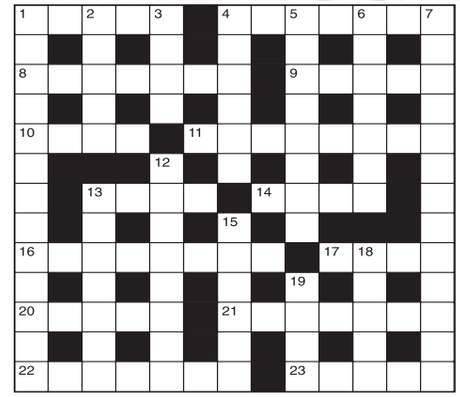
## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.



### Cryptic Clues:

**Across**

1. Get to stretch of river (5)
4. 500 playing the piano, the asses! (7)
8. Coarser shopkeeper, we hear (7)
9. Serious accent (5)
10. With strings attached? (4)
11. Again rigid limit (8)
13. Get rid of hut (4)
14. Scold for speed (4)
16. To rig hut thoroughly perhaps (8)
17. Clean warhead with fire residue (4)
20. Assign everybody to return (5)
21. Indian Ocean island for a get-together again? (7)
22. Finish smaller, though going on for ever (7)
23. Newspapers feel the squeeze? (5)

**Down**

1. Correct until engagement, without any backlog at all (5,2,2,4)
2. Sailor takes poem home (5)
3. Does he have a great crowd to entertain? (4)
4. Obscure coffer in cavern (6)
5. Drink to sleep in? (5-3)
6. Inspect axe sent up to pit (7)
7. 000s of sugary endearments? (5,8)
12. Disparage command to avoid greatness? (8)
13. Paid the account and stayed there permanently (7)
15. Suitable wear for putting spirits down? (6)
18. A team apart (5)
19. Is it taken easily by camel-riders? (4)

### Quick Clues:

**Across**

1. Surpass (5)
4. Sorrow (7)
8. Part-exchange (5-2)
9. In competition (5)
10. Drill (4)
11. View (8)
13. Appendage (4)
14. Price (4)
16. Innocuous (8)
17. Basin (4)
20. Correct (5)
21. Intellectual (7)
22. Shreds (7)
23. Thick (5)

**Down**

1. Institution (13)
2. Professorship (5)
3. Sediment (4)
4. Divers (6)
5. Compartment (8)
6. Clear (7)
7. Forswear alcohol (4,3,6)
12. Drive out (8)
13. Flood (7)
15. Estimate (6)
18. Seas (5)
19. Old (4)

## Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 6 | | | | 9 | | |
| | 4 | 1 | 2 | | 5 | | 3 | |
| | 5 | | | 9 | | | 8 | |
| 1 | 6 | | | | | | 4 | 7 |
| | | | 6 | | 3 | | | 5 |
| 7 | 2 | | 1 | | | | 9 | 8 |
| | 9 | | | 1 | | | 2 | |
| | 1 | | 4 | | 8 | | 6 | |
| | | 4 | | | | 8 | 7 | |

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 2 |
| 7 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 1 |
| 8 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 4 |
| 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| 5 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 |

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 3 Pill-boxes; 8 Lime; 9 Compasses; 10 Patron; 11 Sleep; 14 Adorn; 15 Drop; 16 Treat; 18 Teal; 20 Again; 21 Local; 24 Bushel; 25 Corvettes; 26 Arms; 27 Foreshore. Down: 1 Elephants; 2 Emotional; 4 Iron; 5 Lapel; 6 Ousted; 7 Even; 9 Count; 11 Shell; 12 Preachers; 13 Spineless; 17 Tagus; 19 Louvre; 22 Aitch; 23 Go to; 24 Bear. QUICK - Across: 3 Impromptu; 8 Pond; 9 Originate; 10 Exempt; 11 Steer; 14 Elver; 15 Dawn; 16 Aloof; 18 Anew; 20 Evoke; 21 Wrath; 24 Beaten; 25 Contender; 26 Turf; 27 Refectory. Down: 1 Ephemeral; 2 Interview; 4 Mart; 5 Right; 6 Minded; 7 Tote; 9 Opera; 11 Sloth; 12 Raconteur; 13 Indemnify; 17 Fewer; 19 Writhe; 22 Tenet; 23 Poke; 24 Bear.

## Quiz

1. Where is the annual British Showjumping Derby held?
2. Which great circle may be terrestrial or celestial?
3. In which US state is the Corning Museum of Glass, reputedly the world's finest collection?
4. Who directed The Wild Bunch in 1969?
5. For which motor racing team did Nigel Mansell drive (briefly) in 1995?
6. Which book of stories inspired Baden Powell to form the Wolf Cub division of the Boy Scout movement?
7. Which astronomical feature may be spiral, barred or elliptical?
8. What type of trader's traditional sign is three gold balls?
9. Which Christian festival commemorates the coming of the Magi?
10. What is a skua?

**Last week's solutions:**

**Quiz:** 1 Gustave Flaubert; 2 Chloroform; 3 South Africa; 4 Universities; 5 Privet; 6 Rabbit; 7 Camille Saint-Saens; 8 Harpo; 9 Eucalyptus; 10 Gerald Durrell.

**Niner:** FATHERING

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

**825736** gives flowers,
**543796** gives more flowers,
**386716** gives bunches of flowers.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | |

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**LONDON'S LYRIC THEATRE**
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**Departing Saturday 17 Nov**

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at the Royal Albert Hall
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at the National Theatre
**Departing Saturday 24 Nov**

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Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, August 30, 2018

# SATURDAY'S TV SEPTEMBER 1

## CHOICE

Robbie Williams

**The X Factor (ITV, 8pm)**
New series. The search for the next music superstar gets under way as the talent contest returns. Heralding the start of a new era for the entertainment show, Robbie Williams, his wife Ayda and Louis Tomlinson join music mogul Simon Cowell on the brand new judging panel. Returning as host is Dermot O'Leary, who will be on hand to provide contestants with a word of advice - or a much-needed hug - as they perform in front of the judges. Also returning are the arena auditions at the SSE Arena, Wembley, with the hopefuls performing in front of a live audience.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nadiya's Family Favourites. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Athletics: Diamond League – Brussels and Zurich Highlights. **3.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30 Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides. (2011) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp.

**7.35 Impossible Celebrities.** The Rev Kate Bottley is among the 18 celebrities playing for charity in the quiz in which contestants compete for the chance to win money, with a single "impossible" answer knocking them out.

**8.25 Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman challenge four more teams of celebrity contestants to take part in the unorthodox general knowledge quiz. This time, Lucy Porter teams up with Rob Deering, and Rachel Johnson joins forces with her father Stanley. John Shuttleworth unites with Dave Gorman, and Carol McGiffin throws her lot in with Charlotte Crosby. (R)

**9.10 Casualty.** Iain struggles to make a speech at Sam's funeral, only for Dylan to stop him mid-sentence and publicly blame him for her death. Elsewhere, Ethan treats a pedestrian who has been hit by a motorbike, while Alicia looks after her son, who is in shock. Blake and Jacob bond over their shared feelings for Sam.

**10.00 BBC News**; Weather.; National Lottery Update.

**10.20 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Leicester City v Liverpool at the King Power Stadium and Burnley v Manchester United at Turf Moor.

**11.45 The NFL Show.** Mark Chapman is joined by former players Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to preview the new NFL season, with the pundits offering their thoughts and predictions on the next six months.

**12.15 Film:** Fright Night. (2011) A teenager realises his neighbour is a vampire, and seeks the aid of a Las Vegas magician in slaying him. Comedy horror remake, with Anton Yelchin, Colin Farrell and David Tennant. **1.55** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.00** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.45** Top Class. (R) **7.10** Marrying Mum and Dad. (R) **7.40** Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers. (R) **8.10** The Dengineers. (R) **8.40** Absolute Genius with Dick & Dom. (R) **9.10** Planet Dinosaur. (R) **9.40** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **10.00** Nature's Miracle Babies. (R) **11.00** Natural World. (R) **12.00** Nigel Slater: Eating Together. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Great British Menu. (R) **1.30** Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food. (R) **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Scrappers – Back in the Yard. (R) **3.30** Garden Rescue. (R) **4.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.15** Flog It! (R) **5.50** A Passage to Britain. (R)

**6.50 Proms Extra.** Katie Derham presents the final episode of 2018. Tonight's show has a double helping of Bernstein, with a look at On the Town and The Age of Anxiety. Plus, Simon Rattle conducting Ravel's L'enfant et les sortilèges and András Schiff playing Bach. Last in the series.

**7.30 Eric & Ernie.** Drama charting the early years of one of Britain's best comedy double acts, focusing on the influence of Eric Morecambe's mother Sadie (Victoria Wood). A chance meeting on the children's variety circuit sees the start of an unlikely friendship and Eric soon becomes the funnyman to Ernie Wise's "feed". But as they grow older, the duo struggle to make their way in mainstream entertainment with a few dubious tours and an ill-advised TV series that has the critics gunning for them. Daniel Rigby and Bryan Dick star as Eric and Ernie, with Jim Moir (better known to comedy fans as Vic Reeves) and Reece Shearsmith as their fathers. (R)

**9.00 Morecambe and Wise in Pieces: The Sketches.** Penelope Keith presents another edition of the occasional series, this time trawling the archives for the best of Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise's bite-sized routines from their shows. (R)

**10.00 Film: Gone Girl.** (2014) A man reports his wife's disappearance, only to end up under media scrutiny and accused of murder. David Fincher's crime thriller, with Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike.

**12.20 Film:** Mystery Road. (2013) Murder mystery, with Aaron Pedersen and Hugo Weaving. **2.15** This Is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Dino Dana. **6.10** Super 4. (R) **6.25** Super 4. (R) **6.35** Make It Pop. (R) **7.00** Mission Employable. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.15** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.30** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.40** ToonMarty. (R) **7.55** Scrambled!'s Shiniest Showdown Ever. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Saturday. **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.35** James Martin's American Adventure. (R) **12.00** Love Your Garden. (R) **1.05** £10k Holiday Home. (R) **1.35** ITV News; Weather. **1.45** Catchphrase. (R) **2.30** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **3.30** The Chase. (R) **4.30** WOS Wrestling. **5.30** ITV News; Weather. **5.45** Regional Programme ; Weather.

**6.00 Big Star's Little Star.** Stephen Mulhern hosts the entertainment show in which the children of Una Foden, Kate Silverton and Kriss Akabusi spill the beans about their famous parents. Last in the series.

**7.00 Celebrity Catchphrase.** Stephen Mulhern hosts a celebrity edition of the game show, asking Rob Beckett, Ruth Jones and Jordan Banjo to 'see it and say it' as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues. After the first elimination, the two remaining players battle to reach the Super Catchphrase round, where one of them could win £50,000 for their chosen charity.

**8.00 The X Factor.** New series. The search for the next music superstar gets under way, featuring a brand new judging panel of Robbie and Ayda Williams, Louis Tomlinson and Simon Cowell.

**9.15 The Jonathan Ross Show.** New series. The host returns for another helping of celebrity chat. With guests Kevin Hart, Tiffany Haddish, Mel Giedroyc, Rob Beckett, Dave Bautista and Jess Glynne.

**10.20 ITV News**; Weather.

**10.35 Film: Two Weeks Notice.** (2002) A lawyer walks out on her job with a self-centred property tycoon, forcing him to pull out all the stops to win her back. Romantic comedy, with Sandra Bullock and Hugh Grant.

**12.25** WOS Wrestling. (R) **1.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Eternal Glory. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.15** The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **9.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Simpsons. (R) **11.00** The Simpsons. (R) **11.30** Para Triathlon: Superhero Tri. **1.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.30** The People's Vet. **4.30** Channel 4 News. **5.00** Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.

**6.30 Speed with Guy Martin: Classic F1 Special.** Guy takes part in his first-ever Formula 1 race as he goes head to head with 2009 world champion Jenson Button around Silverstone Grand Prix circuit. Guy is driving a classic 1983 Williams FW08c, working for six months with the Williams heritage Division to restore it from museum piece to racing condition, and learned how to drive Formula 1 style under the direction of Karun Chandhok, formerly of the Hispania Racing F1 Team, while Jenson takes to the track in a prototype six-wheeled Williams from the 1980s. (R)

**8.00 Film: Oblivion.** (2013) A repairman is assigned to salvage the remaining resources from Earth, which has been left a devastated wasteland after a war with an alien race. He discovers a human survivor on the surface of the planet, an encounter that exposes secrets from the past that threaten the future of the human race. Sci-fi adventure, starring Tom Cruise and Morgan Freeman.

**10.15 Film: Exodus: Gods and Kings.** (2014) The adoptive brother of the pharaoh of Egypt tries to free the country's slaves during a series of plagues. Biblical epic, starring Christian Bale and Joel Edgerton.

**12.55** Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Imran's behaviour towards Misbah begins to improve, and Romeo and Prince are throw another rave. Meanwhile, Sami asks Ellie to travel around the world with him. (R) **3.05** French Collection. (R) **4.00** Village of the Year with Penelope Keith. The winning village from this week's heats is decided. (R) **4.55** Find It, Fix It, Flog It. Valuable items languishing in people's homes. (R) **5.50** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. Kirstie Allsopp tries her hand at needlecraft at the Great Yorkshire Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **10.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.40** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.45 Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Johnny Depp. **3.45** Access. **3.50 Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End. (2007) Concluded.

**6.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** High-court enforcement officers Paul Bohill and Steve Pinner face some tough decisions when they are given the task of repossessing a house in which a woman is living with two young children. They also pursue a debt of more than £25,000 and visit a tenant in a fashionable London borough who has not paid his rent. (R)

**7.00 Cricket on 5.** England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from day three of the Fourth Test in the five-match series, taking place at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton.

**7.55 5 News Weekend.**

**8.00 Brunel's Britain: Master of Bridges.** In a two-part series, Rob Bell explores the work of Victorian engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, exploring his complex personality as well as his prolific achievements. In the opening episode, Rob examines Brunel's first major project, the Thames Tunnel, before he went on to secure the post of official engineer to the proposed Great Western Railway. (R)

**9.00 How the Victorians Built Britain.** New series. How Britain was transformed during the Victorian era, including surprising stories behind iconic landmarks and the hidden heroes behind epic constructions.

**10.00 Celebrity Big Brother.** Highlights of the housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.

**11.05 Lip Sync Battle US: Michael Jackson Special.** Chrissy Teigen and LL Cool J invite Hailee Steinfeld, Taraji P Henson, Neil Patrick Harris and Laverne Cox to mimic the moves of Michael Jackson.

**12.00** Cruising with Jane McDonald. (R) **12.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Gotham: Rise of the Villains. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Four**
**7.00** Secrets of Our Living Planet **8.00** Lost Land of the Tiger **9.00** The Plague **10.45** Reading Festival 2018: The Best Bits **11.45** Top of the Pops: 1986 **12.45** Jimi Hendrix: The Road to Woodstock **1.45** Secrets of Our Living Planet **2.45** Lost Land of the Tiger **3.45** Close

**ITV2**
**12.50** You've Been Framed! Gold **1.25 Film:** Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **2.25** FYI Daily **2.30 Film:** Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **3.30 Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **4.30** FYI Daily **4.35 Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **5.20 Film:** Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi (1983) **6.20** FYI Daily **6.25 Film:** Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi (1983) **8.00 Film:** Rock of Ages (2012) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05 Film:** Rock of Ages (2012) **10.25** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.25 Film:** Van Helsing (2004) **1.30** FYI Daily **1.35 Film:** Van Helsing (2004) **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

**ITV3**
**3.05 Film:** Carry On Don't Lose Your Head (1966) **4.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Vera **1.00** On the Buses **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

**ITV4**
**12.00** Dirtquake VII **1.00** Storage Wars **1.30** ITV Racing: Live from Sandown. **4.00 Film:** The Train Robbers (1973) **5.00** FYI Daily **5.05 Film:** The Train Robbers (1973) **5.55** Mr Bean **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** River Monsters **9.00 Film:** Tremors (1990) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05 Film:** Tremors (1990) **11.05 Film:** Crank (2006) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10 Film:** Crank (2006) **12.50** Better Late Than Never **1.45** Minder **2.35** Football's Greatest: Johan Cruyff **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

**E4**
**11.30 Film:** Tooth Fairy (2010) **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **3.00** The Great British Bake Off **4.15** The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice **5.20** Extreme Cake Makers **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Pitch Perfect (2012) **11.10** Gogglebox **1.20** Tattoo Fixers **2.25** Rude Tube **3.15** Gogglebox **4.10** Rude(ish) Tube **4.30** Young & Hungry

**Film4**
**1.00** Romancing the Stone (1984) **3.05** Titanic (1997) **6.50** Last Vegas (2013) **9.00** Red (2010) **11.15** Dracula Untold (2014) **1.05** Princess Mononoke (1997) **3.50** Close


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WOLVERHAMPTON MAGAZINE

# SUNDAY'S TV SEPTEMBER 2

## CHOICE

Olivia Cooke

**Vanity Fair**
**(ITV, 9pm)**
New series. Adaptation of William Makepeace Thackeray's novel about an amoral woman who cunningly manipulates her way to the top of Georgian high society, while the Napoleonic wars rage around her. Starring Olivia Cooke and Claudia Jessie, with Michael Palin appearing as Thackeray himself. Charlie Rowe, Johnny Flynn, Simon Russell Beale, Tom Bateman, Suranne Jones, Robert Pugh, David Fynn, Claire Skinner, Martin Clunes, Siena Kelly, Kerry Gilbert, Grace Schneider, Richie Campbell, Ben Fox, Rebecca Brewer, Bob Goody, Pieter Lawman, Ellen Attwell, Sarah Williams, Alice Kerrigan, Jenna Brook and Daniel Croucher also star.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **8.35** Match of the Day. (R) **10.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **11.00** Sunday Morning Live. **12.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Still Open All Hours. (R) **1.45** Hold the Sunset. (R) **2.15** Money for Nothing. (R) **3.00** Points of View. **3.15** Songs of Praise. **3.50** Fake or Fortune? (R) **4.50** Shop Well for Less? (R) **5.50** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

**6.35 BBC News.**

**6.50 Regional Programme.**

**7.00 Countryfile.** Steve Brown presents a guide to the Isle of Sheppey, a part of the country particularly close to his heart. He visits a family-run farm that is also a designated nature reserve, as well as going in search of wildlife, from wading birds in the wetlands to livestock on the saltmarsh. Plus, a selection of reports from the archives exploring Britain's marshlands. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

**8.00 Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould investigate the origins of two paintings by unknown artists dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries, which unusually for the period, depict black subjects. One is a portrait of Dido Belle, a famous former slave adopted into an aristocratic English family in the 1760s, while the other depicts two children against a tropical landscape, and is believed to have been painted as a protest against the slave trade.

**9.00 Bodyguard.** Julia's counter-terrorism bill draws even closer to becoming law while London is left reeling from the recent attacks. However, her ambitions stir up political rivalries, leaving David under even greater pressure to ensure her safety. The police are marginalised from the investigation into the terrorist attacks, which is placed under the control of the security service, and David is left unsure who to trust as his superiors put pressure on him to provide them with information on Julia's activities.

**10.00 BBC News.**

**10.20 Regional Programme.**

**10.30 Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action.

**11.35 Supermarket Shopping Secrets.** (R)

**12.35** Weather for the Week Ahead.

**12.40** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.35** Around the World in 80 Gardens. (R) **7.35** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. (R) **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Great British Menu. (R) **12.00** Great British Menu. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **2.00** Wastemen. (R) **3.00** Equestrian: Burghley Horse Trials. **5.10** Tribes, Predators & Me. (R)

**6.10 Film: Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom.** (1984) The intrepid archaeologist, with his young sidekick and a nightclub singer in tow, is stranded in India, where he takes on a mission to recover magical sacred stones from the hands of an evil cult engaged in human sacrifice and child slavery. Steven Spielberg's action adventure, starring Harrison Ford, Kate Capshaw, Ke Huy Quan and Amrish Puri.

**8.00 Dragons' Den.** Self-made millionaires Peter Jones, Deborah Meaden, Touker Suleyman, Jenny Campbell and Tej Lalvani assess the profit-making potential of more would-be entrepreneurs' ideas, including a doctor who has invented a range of convertible clothing, a team of university friends with an online art platform, and a pair of hairdressers with a colour wash shampoo business.

**9.00 Eight Go Rallying: The Road to Saigon.** The teams begins a 900 kilometre journey across Cambodia that takes three days to complete. Along the way, they drop in a market where insects and spiders can be bought as snacks and visit sites linked to the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge regime, including the S21 prison and the notorious Killing Fields. Fatigue and ill health starts to take its toll as they cross the border into Vietnam.

**10.00 Millionaires' Ex-Wives Club.** A glimpse into the world of high-profile divorce cases for the super rich, following two women as they battle with their former husbands for a share of their fortunes. (R)

**11.00 Film: Kinky Boots.** (2005) A man inherits a struggling shoe factory and finds salvation for his business in a drag artist's need for custom footwear. Comedy drama, starring Chiwetel Ejiofor.

**12.40** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.35** Holby City. (R) **2.35** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Dino Dana. **6.10** Super 4. (R) **6.25** Super 4. (R) **6.35** Make It Pop. (R) **7.00** Mission Employable. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.15** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.30** NinjaGo: Decoded. (R) **7.40** ToonMarty. (R) **7.55** Scrambled! Sketch Show. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball On Sunday. **9.25** The X Factor. (R) **10.35** WOS Wrestling. (R) **11.35** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **12.35** Best Walks with a View with Julia Bradbury. (R) **1.05** ITV News; Weather. **1.20 Film:** The LEGO Movie. (2014) Animated comedy, with the voice of Chris Pratt. **3.15** Catchphrase. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)

**6.00 Paul O'Grady's Little Heroes.** Paul meets 13-year-old Amelie, who has been coming to the hospital since she was a baby, and eight-month-old Alexander, who was born profoundly deaf. (R)

**6.30 ITV News**; Weather.

**6.45 Regional Programme;** Weather.

**7.00 5 Gold Rings.** New series. Game show, hosted by Phillip Schofield, in which contestants answer visual questions. The first episode features sisters-in-law competing against a married couple.

**8.00 The X Factor.** Talent contest, hosted by Dermot O'Leary, in which solo singers and groups compete to win a recording contract.

**9.00 Vanity Fair.** New series. Adaptation of William Makepeace Thackeray's novel about an amoral woman's ascent through Georgian high society. Starring Olivia Cooke.

**10.05 The Imitation Game.** New series. Alexander Armstrong hosts the panel show, with Rory Bremner, Debra Stephenson, Luke Kempner and Jess Robinson taking on impressions-based challenges.

**10.45 ITV News**; Weather.

**11.05 Our Everest Challenge: With Ben Fogle and Victoria Pendleton.** Documentary following broadcaster and adventurer Ben Fogle as he faces the challenge of a lifetime, alongside Olympic gold medallist Victoria Pendleton, to scale Mount Everest. (R)

**12.05** Monster Carp. (R) **12.55** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.10** Motorsport: Caterham. **6.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Frasier. (R) **7.55** Frasier. (R) **8.25** Para Athletics: European Championships. **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Peng Life. (R) **2.00 Film:** Hulk. (2003) Comic-book adventure, starring Eric Bana. **4.40** The Great British Bake Off. (R)

**6.00 Extreme Cake Makers.** New series. A baker is challenged to make a flamingo-shaped cake with edible feathers made of paper, while a former helicopter pilot creates edible teddy bears for Armed Forces Day, hand-carved from 11 kilos of chocolate cake and covered in 25 kilos of fondant. A third baker makes an elegant three tier floral wedding cake made from pistachio, cardamom and rose flavoured sponge.

**6.25 Channel 4 News.**

**6.45 Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix Highlights.** Steve Jones and David Coulthard present action from the 14th round of the season, which took place at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza. Lewis Hamilton was aiming to equal Michael Schumacher's record of five victories in this race and gain an edge in his championship battle with Sebastian Vettel in the process.

**9.00 Film: Jack Reacher: Never Go Back.** (2016) Premiere. When the commander of his old military unit is arrested on trumped-up spy charges, vigilante Jack Reacher investigates. Action sequel, starring Tom Cruise, Cobie Smulders and Danika Yarosh.

**11.20 Film: A Bigger Splash.** (2015) A rock star recovering from surgery finds her peaceful Mediterranean retreat disrupted by the arrival of a former lover. Drama, starring Tilda Swinton and Ralph Fiennes.

**1.35** 60 Days in Jail. (R) **2.25** The Supervet. A 10-month-old golden retriever undergoes groundbreaking treatment. (R) **3.20** French Collection. Three rivals upcycle items from a French market before selling them in Brighton. (R) **4.15** Village of the Year with Penelope Keith. The judges visit Rutland, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire and Co Derry. (R) **5.10** The Posh Frock Shop. (R) **5.35** Countdown. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.10** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.15** Luo Bao Bei. (R) **6.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **6.40** Fireman Sam. (R) **6.50** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.00** Bob the Builder. (R) **7.15** Rusty Rivets. **7.30** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.40** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **7.55** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.10** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.25** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **8.45** Pirata & Capitano. **9.00** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.15** Floogals. (R) **9.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **9.45** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.20** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **10.40** Make You Laugh Out Loud. (R) **11.35** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.35** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.35** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.35** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **3.30** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **4.30** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R) **5.25** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R)

**6.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Agents in central London try to recover almost £1,900 owed in parking fines, while officers Stewart and Vic chase over £2,200 owed by a scrap yard owner. (R)

**7.00 Cricket on 5.** England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from day four of the Fourth Test in the five-match series, taking place at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton.

**7.55 5 News Weekend.**

**8.00 That's So 1980.** An entertaining look back at events of 1980, a year politics met sport when the USA boycotted the Moscow Olympics. There was a taste of terrorist acts to come when the Iranian embassy in London was besieged prior to being stormed by the SAS in front of a live TV audience. Plus, Lady Diana Spencer emerged as a favourite of the paparazzi, B-movie actor Ronald Reagan beat Jimmy Carter in the US presidential election and prime minister Margaret Thatcher delivered her "The lady's not for turning" speech. New developments in consumer technology saw the release of Pac-Man and the UK launch of the Sony Walkman. (R)

**9.00 Celebrity Big Brother.** The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.

**10.00 Most Shocking Moments in Pop.** (R)

**12.55** SuperCasino. **3.10** Gotham: Rise of the Villains. (R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **4.45** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.10** House Doctor. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Four**

**7.00** BBC Proms 2018 **8.30** The Gardeners of Kabul **9.00** Hull's Headscarf Heroes **10.00** The Last Testament of Lillian Bilocca **10.30** France: The Wild Side: Natural World **11.30** Storyville: The Golden Age of Circus – The Show of Shows **12.45** Scotland's Vital Spark: The Clyde Puffer **1.45** Going Going Gone: Nick Broomfield's Disappearing Britain **2.45** The No.5 War **3.40** Close

**ITV2**

**12.40** Ninja Warrior UK **1.40** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.45** The X Factor **4.05 Film:** Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) **5.10** FYI Daily **5.15 Film:** Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) **6.20 Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014) **7.20** FYI Daily **7.25 Film:** The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (2014) **9.00 Film:** American Pie: Reunion (2012) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10 Film:** American Pie: Reunion (2012) **11.15** Family Guy **12.45** American Dad! **1.40** Ghosted **2.05** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.30** Teleshopping

**ITV3**

**11.05** Inspector Morse **3.30** Rosemary & Thyme **5.05** Lewis **7.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** Les Dawson Forever **11.00** Wire in the Blood **12.25** A Touch of Frost **2.20** Road to Avonlea **4.00** Judge Judy **4.40** George and Mildred **5.35** ITV3 Nightscreen

**ITV4**

**3.45** Storage Wars **7.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **8.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain **9.00 Film:** First Blood (1982) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05 Film:** First Blood (1982) **11.05 Film:** Born to Raise Hell (2010) **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10 Film:** Born to Raise Hell (2010) **1.10** Minder **3.00** Teleshopping

**E4**

**12.35** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.35** Young Sheldon **2.35** The Big Bang Theory **7.10 Film:** Paddington (2014) **9.00** Krypton **10.00** Fear the Walking Dead **11.00** Gogglebox **12.05** The Big Bang Theory **1.30** Krypton **2.25** Fear the Walking Dead **3.10** Hollyoaks

**Film4**

**11.00** Rio (2011) **1.00** Mirror Mirror (2012) **3.10** Epic (2013) **5.20** The Two Faces of January (2014) **7.15** Men in Black II (2002) **9.00** Risen (2016) A Roman officer is charged with investigating reports of Jesus' resurrection in the aftermath of the crucifixion. Biblical drama, starring Joseph Fiennes and Tom Felton. **11.10** Friends with Benefits (2011) Romantic comedy, starring Justin Timberlake. **1.20** The Stag (2013) **3.15** Close

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# PROPERTY

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## Four-bedroomed spacious home is in a great location

**A prestigious four-bedroomed family home in an outstanding location in Marnham Road, West Bromwich, is expected to sell fast.**

Having everything you could wish for, it is for sale through loveyourpostcode.com at offers in excess of £339,950.

This property has space, a new build design, and lies in a great location on a brilliant estate.

To the front of the property is a good-sized driveway as well as a secure garage.

The accommodation includes an entrance hallway which leads to a superb living room on the right, having an abundance of natural light due to the large double-glazed windows.

There is also a convenient downstairs wash room. and also great under stairs storage space.

Back into the entrance hallway, this also leads to the immaculate and excellent sized kitchen/diner that has been finished to a spectacular specification.

Opposite the kitchen is an extended conservatory that has plenty of natural light and is great use of space, having views over a good-sized garden for children to enjoy the sun in.

On the first floor is the spacious master bedroom with fitted wardrobes.

There is also a desirable en-suite leading on from the master bedroom.

The second, third and fourth bedrooms all have conveniently fitted wardrobes that are all again amazingly spacious.

All the bedrooms can comfortably fit double beds and there is light paint work throughout.

The large family bathroom is exquisitely finished and has both a separate shower as well as a bath tub.

This property is set in the ever-modernising town of West Bromwich, with the spectacular back drop of Sandwell Valley Country Park.

It is an ideal family home and has excellent activities and a recently revamped town centre on your doorstep.

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### KEY FEATURES

- Luxurious residence
- 4 bedrooms
- Excellent estate
- Expected to sell fast
- Driveway & garage

# Well-presented three-bedroom terraced house near travel links

WEST BROMWICH

£149,950 <<<

**This well presented three-bedroomed terraced house in Cordley Street, West Bromwich, is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents at £149,950.**

The property is conveniently located a short distance away from local schools, travel links and is a short walk away from the town centre and all of its amenities which include the New Square shopping complex.

The accommodation briefly comprises a sitting room, a lounge/dining room, a kitchen, a downstairs bathroom, three bedrooms and a rear garden.

The selling agents are expecting a great deal of interest to be shown in the sale of this property.

In more detail the front door opens to a shared entrance and a main entrance door opens into a hallway. The sitting room has a double glazed window to the front.

For further information, or to book a viewing, contact Skitts Estate Agents on 0121 520 2255.

# Five-bedroom extended home ideal for a family

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£344,950

**An extended detached five-bedroomed home, 119 Tower Road, Tividale, has good-sized accommodation.**

Within walking distance of local shops, it is for sale through Tom Giles Estate Agents at £344,950.

With gas central heating and double glazing, it stands set back from the roadside behind a driveway with parking for four/five vehicles. It also has a reception hall, a lounge/dining room with a glazed bow window to front and French doors to the rear garden. There is a lobby with vinyl flooring and a downstairs WC.

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# Appealing traditional home is an ideal first buy

**An ideal first time or investment buy, 28 Sandford Avenue, Rowley Regis, has open plan living accommodation to the ground floor, and lies in a popular and convenient location.**

A traditional semi-detached, it is for sale through Tom Giles at £129,950 with no chain.

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ROWLEY REGIS

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kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom.

The entrance hall has laminate flooring. The lounge has Halogen down lighters, a laminate floor covering and double-glazed patio doors to the rear garden.

The lobby has laminate flooring and a door to the rear garden. The kitchen has appliance space for a fridge freezer, worktop, three base units, inset "Stoves Newhome" oven, a four-plate electric hob and extractor hood.

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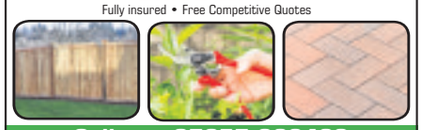

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For a FREE quote call
Wayne on:
Tel: 0121 556 5294 Mobile: 07817 727261

## Gutter Cleaning

**Gutter Cleaning Services**
AVOID COSTLY REPAIR BILLS
Are they blocked? Full of Dirt, Leafs & Moss?
Are they over flowing when it rains?
We use the latest equipment, and will clear any blockages or loose build up from your gutter.
SPECIAL OFFER £40 PER PROPERTY
Call Today 07738 616 075

## Plumbing & Heating

**MCP PLUMBING & HEATING**
All Plumbing, Gas and Central Heating
Work Undertaken
Servicing and Repairs
Bathroom and Kitchen Installation
07852 150057
Gas Safe REGISTERED 221874

**KEN BANNISTER**
Plumbing and Heating
All Plumbing, Central Heating undertaken.
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Free estimate and advice
07964 997 845
0121 557 5958

## Roofing

**ALL WEATHER ROOFING**
Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding
FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE
Over 30 years experience
0121 420 1582
NO CALL OUT CHARGE
Mobile Number: 07947 839451
allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk
allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com

**Tom Corbett Roofing Services**
Telephone: 0121 5800915 Mobile: 07931 344199
- Flat Roof Repaired or Renewed
- Slate & Tile Repairs
- Ridge, Hip & Chimney Repointing
- Gutter Replacement & Cleaning

30 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
FREE QUOTATIONS

**ELITE PLASTICS**
• Fascias • Sofits • Dry Verge
• Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair
Premium Products Expertly Fitted With Full Manufacture Guarantee.
For A Free Quote call
01384 468831 / 07985 575865
www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk

SELL IT FAST SELL IT LOCAL
01902 317878
ClassifiedAds

IT'S FREE IT'S EASY
*Advertise any item FREE up to the value of £250 go to:
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk
*T&C's apply
ClassifiedAds

## skip hire

**MT SKIPS & GRAB HIRE**
Save £££s
All size skips and all areas covered
Same day delivery faster than
A phone call!!!
Open 7 days a week
SCRAP CARS REMOVED FOR FREE
YOU FILL 'EM WE MT 'EM
07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 56

**Local Specialists**

**RUSSELL SKIPS**
MINI/MIDI SKIPS
(0121) 520 3388
07721 387990

**A.J.B. Waste Management**
Try us for a FREE no obligation quotation
FOR A CHEAP RUBBISH REMOVAL 6 DAYS
Small jobs NOT A PROBLEM
We load, No Skips, Free quotation
GARDEN, HOUSEHOLD, SHED, GARAGE, WHITE GOODS, HOUSE CLEARANCES FURNITURE.
You can also bring your own waste to our fully licensed transfer station
CALL TODAY AND LETS TALK RUBBISH
Tel 0121 520 7731

To advertise your business and reach more than 61,597 potential customers...
1 Call us on... 01902 319590
2 E-mail us at... mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk
3 Post to... Mark Moore, Sandwell Chronicle, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury B69 2DG

# Classified Ads

**Buy** Local, **Sell** Local

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2 Leisure Time
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## FreeAds

IT'S FREE IT'S EASY

For items up to **£250**

**VISIT:**

bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

Simply press the free ad icon.
Sorry, no pets, guns or livestock.
Private advertisers only.

## Place a paid for advert

**By Phone 01902 317878**
8.30am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri.
Closed Sat/Sun and Bank Holidays

**Online**
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

**In person**
At your local Express & Star Office.
Cancel/amend, call before 3.00pm Monday - Friday for the next day's advertisement or also before 3.00pm Friday for Monday's advertisement.

### Funeral Directors

**Turn To Us For Help and Support**

In your time of need we'll take care of all the funeral arrangements.

- Est. 1907
- 24 hour service

**G. Gibbs**
**Funeral Directors**
44 All Saints Way
West Bromwich B71 1PZ
**0121 553 0442**
Dignity Caring Funeral Services
Part of Dignity plc. A British Company.

### Lost & Found

**STILL MISSING**

White cat, black patches, black nose. Missing since April 26, 2018, near St Anne's Road in Willenhall. May make his way back home to Walsall. Reward offered for safe return.

**Please call 07496 390269**

## 1 Family

### Elderly & Disabled

**MOBILITY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS** Stairlifts, Scooters, Wheelchairs and Batteries: Call 0121 522 3311.

**MOBILITY SCOOTER**

Pride Pursuit 8mph large scooter, luxury model, 25 mile range, full suspension, 28 stone capacity. Superb.

Delivery and warranty included.

**£995**

**07718 089131.**

**MOBILITY SCOOTER** Shoprider. Very good condition, new battery and charger. £165 ono. 01543 505863. Cannock.

## 2 Leisure Time

### Caravans/ Motorhomes

**A BEAUTIFUL PARK NR LUDLOW** 35x12 caravans from £10,000.Gym Par 3 golf, bowls, why go further? www.bcpark.co.uk 01584823433.

**Caravan Holiday Home for Sale**
**2008 Swift Chamonix 2 beds**

Luxury Pre-loved, en suite toilet & large family shower room.

Immaculate condition including new carpets throughout.

On ultimate coastal park 5 star retreat.

Minutes from glorious sandy beaches, world famous golf course & Historic Harlech Castle.

**£28,995**

**Call Sue or Richard**
**01766 780328**
**www.castleviewpark.co.uk**

**Caravan Holiday home for sale**
**2010 swift Moselle £24,495**
2 beds, bright open plan, well looked after, family shower room plus separate en-suite Castle view 5★ Caravan Holiday Home Park - Ultimate Coastal retreat
Minutes from glorious sandy beaches & world famous golf Course and Historic Harlech Castle .
**Call Sue or Richard 01766 780328**
**www.castleviewpark.co.uk**

**STATIC CARAVAN ON A RIVERSIDE PARK** at Tewksbury open 12 months with pub and play area, 2 bedrooms.£9,950. 07774 715830.

### Caravans Wanted

All Caravans Wanted
Any Age or Condition
*CASH * WAITING*
Immediate collection
Call Bill on 07825 325 913

## holidays

### Self Catering Holidays

**BURNHAM-ON-SEA**
Self Catering Holiday Apartments
Disabled Facilities
Pet Friendly
**01278 794111**
**www.GoSomerset.co.uk**

### Travel Abroad

**READERS ARE REMINDED** to check with any Advertisers that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

### Yorkshire

**YORKSHIRE DALES**
Meadow Holidays
Country Cottages / Suites in Wensleydale
" Weeks from £209 per couple
" Weekends just £99 per couple
Families Welcome
*Walk in scenic countryside by waterfalls or visit historic market towns with friendly Inns*
**Brochure (24hrs) 01969 624145**
email: rita@meadowholidays.com
www.meadowholidays.com

## mind, body & soul

### Massage

Mobile deep tissue aromatherapy massage treatment by qualified therapist
By appointment **07437 569187**

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

## 3 Home & Services

### Furniture

katharine house hospice embracing life and living
Reg charity number: 1011712
**Furniture not sold, why not donate it?**
We can turn your quality used furniture into 1st class care for patients at Katharine House
**Call us now on 01785 760715**
for details or to arrange a FREE collection

**FURNITURE NOT SOLD?**Donate it to Katharine House Hospice. We collect for free. Telephone Cannock 01543 466885, Stafford 01785 247630, House clearance service 01785 760715.

### Household Appliances

**AMAZING SALE FOR 1 WEEK ONLY**
Everything must be cleared for new stock
COOKERS, FRIDGES, FREEZERS, AUTOS, FIRES & MORE
*Past & Present*
24-26 Church Street Bilston, (opposite town hall)
**01902 403770**

**CHEST FREEZER** 22 inches long, 33 inches deep, 14 inches wide. £45 ono. Must collect. 01922 682774.

### In Your Garden

**BLOXWICH FENCING**
Supply and Fit or DIY
*Credit cards taken • Free quotes*
*WS3 2BQ*
**01922 712184**

**C B SHEDS & FENCING**
We supply & fit. Free quotes.
**Call: 01922 720270**
We also supply sleepers and decking

**6x5 Lap Panels**
**£17 each (inc vat)**
WS3 2BQ
Bloxwich Fencing Ltd
or 01922 712184

### Items For Sale

**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED**
That the Business Advertisements(Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**ASH RECLAMATION** new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

**CORRUGATED GALVANISED** Sheets. New, £8 can deliver. Also rooflights and box profile. David Broxton on 07834 489558.

**ASH RECLAMATION**
**All reclaimed building materials**
UPVC doors and windows
**New and Used**
Gatehouse Trading Est.
Lichfield Road, Brownhills,
WS8 6JZ
**01543 453222**
**07956 627367**

**MYFORD LATHE**, three speed, 240 volt, good condition, £250. 01922 457122 or 07756 440295.

### Items Wanted

**A ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. **07852 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021**

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

### Loans

**READERS ARE REMINDED** that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

### PC's, Laptops & Accessories

**CLIENT COMPUTERS** Certified technician and microsoft partner. Repair and maintain laptops and pcs. Virus removal, broken screens, wifi, windows problem etc. Laptops available. 0121 556 9481

**CLIENT COMPUTERS**

Certified technician & Microsoft partner.
Repair & maintain laptops and PCs. In West Midlands.
Virus removal, broken screens, wifi.
Windows problems etc.
Home visits or bring to me.
Long established.
Laptops available.
0121 556 9481

## t.v. / home entertainment

### Service

**AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST** Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, sky, CCTV cameras. TV wall mounts and TV set ups. 07850 330251.

**TRUST CLASSIFIEDS!**

"TV Link are really pleased with their response from their Classified Campaign"

*Bill - TV Link*

For great business results call
**01902 319 191**
ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

## specialists at your service

### Alarms/Security

**PREMIER ALARMS**
Supplied and Fitted £249
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
**Call: 0121 601 9791**

### Aerials

**A AERIAL & SKY SPECIALIST**
Digital Aerials Fitted
Sky & CCTV Cameras
**Free Quotes. 7 days**
**07850 330251**

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS** checkatrade.com
**AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99**
01902 858191 • 01384 429166
01543 439095 • 01922 716029

**TRUST CLASSIFIEDS!**

"I am very pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising Contract"

*Steve - AA Digital Aerials*

For great business results call
**01902 319 191**
ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

### Bathrooms

**BATHROOM DESIGN** All bathrooms fitted, tiling, flooring, complete bathrooms call: 07850 382548.

### Building Services

**DAVIES & SON BUILDERS**
All Building & Roofing Work
Driveways, Landscaping
Over 40 year exp | All work guaranteed
**Free Quotes: 07837 994465**
**01902 831316**

### Building Supplies

**RECLAIMED BRICKS**, Tiles, Slates, Oakbeams, Flooring, York Stone. Cawarden 01889 574066. sales@cawardenreclaim.co.uk

### Carpentry & Joinery

**SPR CARPENTRY** Six internal pre-primed doors fully fitted from £395. 0121 5322672 or 07958 552625.

### Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

**A CLASS Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning** Unbeatable Prices. OAP discounts. Call Paul 07870 341089

### Carpet Fitters

**A CARPETS & VINYLS** supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598 / 07941 619694.

### Driveways & Patios

**TW LANDSCAPES**
**Driveway Restoration Specialists**
Cleaning & Sealing, Patios, Driveways, Decorative Gravel Drives
All aspects of Landscaping, Fencing, Patios, Walls
New Block Paving & Tarmac Drives
*WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRICE*
**Free no obligation quotation**
**call: 01785 878574**
**or 07845 483443**

**P.W DRIVEWAYS**
The Block Paving Specialists.
Patios, Driveways, Pathways, Landscaping & more.
Special Offer £50 PSM
We will beat any like for like written quote
Free Quotes & Advice
01785 609076
(Based in Stafford)

### Driveways/Patio Cleaning

**A CLASS JET WASH** Drives, Roofs, and Patios cleaned . Discounts available 07870 341089

### Fencing

**TRUST CLASSIFIEDS!**

"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representatives and would recommend them to anyone! They have done a very professional job with my website so I get online enquiries as well now."

*Michael- Portway Fencing*

For great business results call
**01902 319 191**
ClassifiedAds
Brought to you by Express & Star

**PORTWAY FENCING**
**SPECIAL OFFER**
*10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards* **£795**
*Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.*
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

### Gardening Services

**H. COOPER & SON** Landscaping / garden maintenance. No job too small, Free Quotes: 07904 929632.

**Landywood Tree & Landscaping Services**
All garden work, tree felling/lopping, pruning, hedges trimmed, turf, patios, fencing, block-paving etc.
www.landywoodlandscaping.co.uk
01922 898 710 / 07973 177 976

### Gas Fitting

**GAS SERVICES**
- Boilers • Cookers
- Fires • Gas Checks
- Landlord Certificates
- Gas Leaks Traced

**Fitted, Serviced and Repaired**
**Same Day Service**
**Free Quotes**
*DISCOUNTS FOR OAPs*
**Call: 01902 366855/ 07761 973975**

**READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.**

It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

### Gates

**ALL METAL GATES,RAILINGS**, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07903 500642 24 hours.

**DARLASTON FABS** 30 years exp in supplying/ fitting gates and railings. Free quotes: 07497 667752.

### Handyman Services

**HANDY MAN** - All trades, washing machines, outside taps, showers, plumbing, heating, gutter cleaning. Free quotes call: 07850 559315.

**YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN**
FREE QUOTES
All work guaranteed, Most trades covered, References available on request. No job too big or too small!
**CALL MIKE: 07947 621047**
**0121 6010479**

**SMALL JOB SPECIALIST** plumbing, carpentry, locks, OAP discount 01902 683100 or 07934 460864

## House Clearances

**A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE**
*Full, part and single rubbish removed.*
Garage and sheds cleared. Leather 3 piece suites and leather chesterfields wanted.
**01922 492007**

**A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE**
*Full, part and single rubbish removed.*
Garage and sheds cleared. Leather 3 piece suites and leather chesterfields wanted.
**01922 492007**

**ALL ROUND CLEARANCE**
*Professional family run business*
House clearances full or part, also garages, sheds etc.
Telephone Kev
**07794 912844**

**A ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. **07852 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021**

## Kitchen Fitters

**THE KITCHEN FITTER** Over 20 years experience. Call 07881 654757 or 01543 373233.

## Oven Cleaning

**OVEN CLEANING SERVICE**
Ovens, double ovens, grills, hobs, ranges and agas. All cleaned to a professional standard.
**S&J Oven wizardz**
**01785 612517**

## Plans Prepared

**ADAM DESIGN**, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

## Plastering

**MINT PLASTERING**
For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200
**30 years experience.**
**Free quotes. All work guaranteed**
**01543 327130 / 07519 694516**

## Plumbing & Heating

**Keiron Jones Plumbing & Heating**
*Full heating systems £2200*
*Boiler Changes £1100*
Longer warranty available upon request, fires and surrounds also available.
**For Free Quotes Call:**
**01902 403823 07811 855231**

**ALL PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN**
No job too large. All work guaranteed.
**Call Will for a free quote**
**07521 411108**

**A.A HEATING & PLUMBING** All gas work. Install/ Service/ Repair. Free quotes call: 07540 950588.

**PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN** No job too small or large. Call or text Will free quotes on: 07521 411108.

## Removals

**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

**KT HOUSE REMOVALS**
*13 years experience.*
*SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.*
*LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.*
**Free Quotes - Call Ric on:**
**07771 727119**

**KC REMOVALS** We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Anything considered. Call on 07867 862227.

**KT REMOVALS** 13 yrs exp. Single items to full load removals. Local / distance. Call Ric: 07771 727119.

## Rubbish Removal

**LETS TALK RUBBISH** No skips needed. Load/remove any waste house clearance. 07969 628382

## Skip Hire

**A absolute affordable skip**
**RUSSELL SKIPS**
**Mini, midi skips**
**Prompt delivery / collection**
**(0121) 520 3388 / 07721 387990**

**GOLDSHILL SKIP & SELF DELIVERIES**
**BRING YOUR WASTE TO US**
(any size vehicle)
General, green, wood (can work out cheaper than a skip)
**OR**
**HIRE A SKIP FROM US -**
Phone for prices
**0121 557 3346**
**82 Pikehelve Street, West Bromwich, B70 0TU**

**STONES SKIP HIRE**
0121 557 1480 / 07886 721875
www.stoneskiphire.co.uk

# 4 Pets & Animals

## Pets Corner

**NOTICE TO READERS**
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

## Equestrian Corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

## Guns & Dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

# 5 Business & Farming

## Commercial Premises

**UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE** to let in Oldbury, West Bromwich and Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashmore Properties 0121 520 5318.

# 7 Jobs

## Drivers

**CLASS 2 DRIVER** experienced moving small machinery with HIAB and skating, countrywide deliveries, no multidrops, permanent position. Tel 0121 557 0320.

## Employment Wanted

**WOMAN BREAKFAST COOK.** Looking for part time work. Cafe, Mobile etc. Reliable. Walsall or surrounding areas. 01922 516528.

# 6 Property

## Accommodation To Let

**NOTICE TO READERS**
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**NOTICE TO READERS**
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

**J9 Accommodation**
**NO DEPOSIT**
**★MOVE IN TODAY★**
**Studios**
*from* **£90pw***
**Rooms**
*from* **£65pw***
**Includes Most Bills*
**CHECK WEBSITE FOR LIVE LIST**
Midland Landlord Accreditation Scheme
**01902 213121**
**J9accommodation.com**

## Overseas Property

**NOTICE TO READERS**
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

**FreeAds**
**IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY**
To sell items upto £250.
Online at
**bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk**

## Properties Wanted

**Yes! HOMEBUYERS**
**We will buy your house fast!**
Free Valuation? Yes! Any House? Yes!
Fast Sale? Yes! Any Location? Yes!
No Fees? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!
FREE, GUARANTEED, instant offer today!
**Call 0121 663 1797**
or text "Cash" to 66777
yeshomebuyers.com

**Home Cash Buyer**
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
**£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££**
**Houses / Land Required**
**We also buy Commercial Property**
**Ring Paul 24/7 Local 07870 341 089**
**Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154**
**Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049**
**Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901**
**www.homecashbuyer.co.uk**

# 8 Motoring

## Cars Over £1500

**BMW 5 SERIES AUTOMATIC TOURER**
2011
Silver, 31,000 miles.
FSH
**£10,950.**
**07739 556295.**

**FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC**
Petrol, 2012, white, 22100 miles, Privacy Glass, abs, EM, alarm, one lady owner, alloys, EW, Air Con, MOT, air bag, full service history, central locking, power steering, tax, CD player, heated screens, Trip comp, Excellent condition.
**£5,950.**
**07505 358276.**

**EXCELLENT CONDITION**
**HYUNDAI TUCSON LIMITED EDITION**
Diesel
2007, silver, 161,000 miles
Full MoT
New clutch, battery, brakes.
FSH.
Call for full spec.
**£1,950 ono.**
**01785 598112.**

**MERCEDES 180C SPORT KOMPRESSOR SALOON**
2005.
Petrol. Auto.
Blue/black Mat.
90k. FSH. Full leather/tints.
**£2,850 ono.**
**07479 544207 Great Wyrley.**

## Cars Over £1500

**PEUGEOT 307 CC**
2008, 65000 miles, Blue, long MoT, one lady owner serviced regularly. Only selling due to increasing family and need larger car.
Cash on collection only
**£1,900 ono**
**0787 6418827.**

**EXCELLENT CONDITION**
**SMART 4 / 2**
Silver, 2008
Just fully serviced and MoT
Excellent order.
**£1,900.**
**01785 662600.**

**LOW MILEAGE**
**TOYOTA AGO**
2011, 5-dr, grey metallic, Sat Nav, alloys, service history, 41,000 miles, MoT, l ively condition.
**£2,850.**
**07483 226432.**

## Cars Under £1500

**CITROEN C3 DESIRE 1360CC**
5-dr, 54 reg., in silver, only 41,000 miles, two former lady keepers, full 12 months MOT, stunning condition
**Only £995**
**07596 223665.**

**MUST BE SEEN**
**NISSAN MICRA SPORT 1.6**
2006. Cabriolet.
Blue.
Good condition.
MoT. All electrics work perfect.
CD Player.
Lady owner.
**£950 ono.**
**07917 370054/07789 989413.**

## Motorbikes

**MUST BE SEEN**
**LML AUTO 125CC SCOOTER**
Red plus cream
Low mileage
2016
First MoT 2019
Very good condition.
**£1,400 ovno.**
**07818 084519.**

## Scrap Vehicles

**mainline Salvage & Recovery**
- *SCRAP CARS WANTED*
- *FREE COLLECTION*
- *TOP PRICES PAID*

*Fully Licensed • C.O.D Issued*
*No Fines • No Comebacks*
*1000's of vehicle parts in stock*
01902 871111 • 07772 240819
07895 346811
**www.mainlinesalvage.co.uk**

**A1 SF RECOVERY**
**SCRAP CARS WANTED**
**£100 Minimum Guaranteed**
paid for complete cars
Collection 7 days a week
**07813 184611**

**ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT**
Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
**0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400.**
**Oldbury Area.**

**OUR ADVERTISERS** are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

## spares & accessories

## Accessories & Services

**CADDY 640 TRAILER** Twin axle, very good condition, little use, new cover, £450. 01922 711214 / 07969 653601.

**W8LFS**
number plate for sale.
Please ring Ian on
**07976 653388**
**for information**

# 9 Local Information

## Public Notices

**PUBLIC & LEGAL NOTICES**
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on **01902 319694** or email **marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk**
*(remember to include a name/ contact number for confirmation of receipt)*

**SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**
**Regeneration & Growth**
**Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)**
**Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990**
**Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015**

I hereby give notice that Sandwell Council has received the following applications under the planning acts which it is required to give public notice for the reason given at the beginning of each group of applications.

This is a major application.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DC/18/62089 | Ashtenne Industrial Fund Limited Partnership | Units 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17 & 18 Autobase Industrial Estate, Tipton Road, Tividale, Oldbury B69 3HU | Demolition and part demolition of buildings, proposed change of use to general industrial (class B2) & storage or distribution (class B8), external alterations to include cladding of walls and roof, and roller shutters, toilet extension, and new service yard with fencing and gates. |

This is a major application.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DC/18/62111 | Mr Lee Frost, Frost Developments Site of Former Cradley Print | Chester Road, Cradley Heath | Proposed residential development of 51 dwellings comprising of: 12 no. 1 bedroom, 19 no. 2 bedroom, and 20 no. 3 bedroom, and associated works. |

Members of the public may inspect copies of these applications at Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE

(between 8.45a.m. and 5.30p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 9.00a.m. and 5.30p.m. Wednesday and 8.45a.m. to 5p.m. Friday) or via the Council's Public Access website (www.sandwell.gov.uk).

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications can do so via the website, or should write to the Council at the above address within 21 days (and 21 days for Listed Building or Conservation Area consent) of the date of this advertisement quoting the application reference number.

AMY HARHOFF, Director of Regeneration & Growth

**SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**The Borough Council of Sandwell (West Bromwich Ringway, West Bromwich) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2018** has made an Order to temporarily prohibit vehicles from proceeding along West Bromwich Ringway between Spon Lane and St Michael Street. Traffic will be diverted via Spon Lane, Sam's Lane, Lyttleton Street, Bromford Lane, Moor Street, Price Street, St Michael Street, High Street, Carters Green, Albion Roundabout, The Expressway, Cronehills Linkway, Congregation Way, Reform Street, Walsall Street, Bull Street and vice-versa. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 03/09/2018, effective from 02/09/18. Purpose – works to repair a ramp on speed table by Fitzgerald for Sandwell Council.

**SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

The council has made **The Sandwell Borough Council (Clifton Lane, West Bromwich) (One-Way Traffic) Order 2018,** effective from 30/08/2018, to prohibit any vehicles travelling in a southerly direction from Jervoise Lane to Charlemont Road, West Bromwich. This will make Clifton Lane a one-way street. An exemption will apply to the police, fire brigade or ambulance service. Full details can be examined at : Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 3DE during normal office hours. Anyone wishing to question the validity of the Order on the grounds that any aspect of the relevant legislation has not been complied with, can apply to the High Court by 11/10/2018.

**SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**
**SPEED TABLES CONSULTATION**

The council proposes to construct speed tables to reduce the speed of vehicles at the following locations:

**Location; Area (m²); Height (mm)**
o/s Galton Valley Primary School; 46; 75
on existing zebra crossing; 51; 75
o/s 8 Brasshouse Lane (The Albion Foundation); 47; 75

Full details may be examined at: Director Regeneration and Growth, Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, B69 3DE during normal office hours and at www.sandwell.gov.uk Objections in writing to Robin Weare, at above address or email to: steven_wall@sandwell.gov.uk by 21/09/2018.

**DAVID RICHARD SPRIGG (Deceased)**
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 90 Pargeter Road Smethwick West Midlands B67 5HZ, who died on 29/07/2018, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 09/11/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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# 10 Personals

## Personal

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# Prices and spec revealed for UK-bound new Kia Optima

The new Kia Optima sportwagon and saloon

By Sharon Walters

**Kia has confirmed pricing and specifications for the updated version of its Optima – which is now on sale.**

Available in both saloon and Sportswagon estate form, the refreshed Optima benefits from a revised design, along with more equipment even a performance-focused variant.

A revised front bumper and new LED headlights give the car a more up-to-date look, with LED rear lights continuing that at the back of the car. Saloon versions also get a tweaked rear bumper, and all versions now see the addition of a chrome finish to the 'tiger-nose' grille.

There's also a new colour available in the form of 'Runway Red', while fresh 17- and 18- inch alloy designs can be optioned.

The Optima's cabin has also been given a new lease of life. All versions get a new steering wheel and satin-chrome trim across the dashboard, while '2' models get the benefit of black cloth upholstery. '3' trim brings faux leather to the table, while the real thing is available on GT-Line S variants.

A revised front bumper and new LED headlights give the car a more up-to-date look

More safety tech has been introduced too. All Optimas now get a driver attention warning system as standard, which monitors input from behind the wheel and the behaviour of the vehicle. If it senses something wrong, it'll signal a warning chime to alert the driver.

Other safety features across the range include forward collision avoidance assistance, lane keep assist and high-beam assist.

## Powerplants

As for engine choices, two are on offer at launch. Models up to GT-Line S are powered by a 1.6-litre diesel unit, which can be paired up to a six-speed manual gearbox or seven-speed dual-clutch automatic.

It produces 134bhp and 320Nm of torque, capable of taking the car from 0-60mph in 10.8 seconds and on to a 121mph top speed in manual 'Sportswagon' form. It's capable of returning a claimed 61.4mpg and emitting 121g/km of CO2.

There's also a petrol engine – available exclusively in the new performance-focused Optima Sportswagon GT. The turbocharged 2.0-litre unit, mated to a six-speed automatic gearbox, develops 241bhp and 353Nm of torque. As a result, 0-60mph comes in 7.3 seconds with a top speed of 144mph. Kia claims fuel economy of 30.7mpg, with CO2 emissions of 211g/km.

Standard equipment across the range includes a 7.0-inch touchscreen infotainment system with satellite navigation and support for both Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, with an 8.0-inch screen also available.

Other equipment on the options list includes automatic parking assistance, speed limit recognition and a 360-degree camera.

Pricing for the new Kia Optima starts at £22,260, with the top-spec Sportswagon GT available from £33,350. Order books are now open, with deliveries to follow imminently.

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5-dr, Red, 48,000 miles
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2015/65 VAUXHALL VIVA 1.0 SE

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5-dr, White, 8,000 miles
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2012 VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC 2.0T 16V VXR

3-dr Coupe, Blue, 38,000 miles
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2015/15 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0T ECOFLEX STING R

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£6,995

2015/65 PEUGEOT 108 1.0 ACTIVE

3-dr, Black, 16,805 miles
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2010/60 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 CDTi 16V ECOFLEX

5-dr, Silver, 56,358 miles
£4,995

2007/07 VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE 1.6 LUNA

2-dr, Blue, 55,455 miles
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2005/55 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6i 16V BREEZE

5-dr, Silver, 78,054 miles
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MOTORING

# Friendly and family-run with quality cars and great service

Commercial feature

**Local motor industry expert joins Halesowen Motor House, a family-run businesses**

Friendly and family-run Halesowen Motor House is leaps ahead when it comes to exceptional service, quality cars, customer loyalty and customer satisfaction.

Halesowen Motor House is part of a family-run business that began in the West Midlands in 1953. Run by managing director Stuart Grieveson, Halesowen Motor House is one of the largest and most friendly car dealerships locally. Stuart's four children, Alexandra, Daniella, Stephen and Oliver all work in the business. It truly is family owned and run.

It's important to the family to keep a friendly atmosphere for staff and customers alike. Happy staff means happy customers, so Halesowen Motor House has many loyal and repeat customers in the local area. This is because Halesowen Motor House's valued customers enjoy exceptional levels of honesty, transparency and customer care across all departments, from new and used car sales through to parts and car servicing.

Due to growth at the company, a new member of the team has been to join the family run business on Dudley Road, Halesowen. Julie Butlin joins the aftersales team, having previously worked for Vauxhall for some 26 years.

**There's always a warm and professional welcome**

Julie has great knowledge of the motor industry so she will add expertise and quality to the customer experience in the servicing department at Halesowen Motor House. "I am looking forward to meeting the customers, new and existing. I'm excited about working with new car brands like Ford and Suzuki plus all makes and models."

Julie is a local, family woman herself; she has two daughters and two grandchildren. This year, she celebrates her 26th wedding anniversary. Julie says since starting at Halesowen Motor House two months ago, she is "delighted by the friendly and fair nature of the company." Julie also said "I'm impressed with the knowledge of the staff here, the fully trained technicians and the high standards of the latest equipment for servicing cars and vans."

General manager, Andy Cooper said: "Having recently undergone a showroom refurbishment, it's an exciting time at Halesowen Motor House. We are a well-established site, with the most modern facilities and employ good people. With Julie here now, she'll bring new skills and fresh insight into the service department. Our local customers will enjoy her courteous, professional and upbeat approach."

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Ready for action: Walsall Ladies' open age senior side face the camera

Mayor Marco Longhi and ex-Saddler Mark Gillespie open the 3G facility at Walsall West E-Act Academy last year

Walsall's under-14s line up after a donation from the M6 Toll

A 2005 presentation to the club for £8,360 from the Football Foundation

# Joy for Ladies as they kick off 20th season

**WALSALL LADIES Football Club have cause for celebration even before a ball is kicked this season after hitting another milestone.**

The club, affiliated to the League One Saddlers, are about to embark on their 20th campaign as they continue to go from strength to strength under the guidance of the man who has been there from day one, chairman Brian Simpson.

The forthcoming campaign will see Walsall run a senior side in the Staffs County League and with teams at under-9, 11, 13, 15 and 16 age groups.

They also boast some impressive facilities on which to display their ball skills at West Walsall E-Act Academy, in Primley Avenue. The club and school have formed a winning partnership with a 3G pitch installed last year which is now used by all of the Walsall sides and the envy of their rivals.

The school has been the Ladies' home for more than a decade and the club played a leading part in bringing about the new facility. It was made possible thanks to a grant from the Premier League and The FA Facilities Fund, delivered by the Football Foundation.

## Development

The then Saddlers goalkeeper Mark Gillespie helped to cut the ribbon on the new facility, along with Walsall Mayor Marco Longhi in August last year.

Founded in 2000, the Football Foundation funds the development of new and refurbished grassroots sports facilities.

Since it was launched, it has awarded around 15,000 grants worth more than £580m towards improving grassroots sport, which it has used to attract additional partnership funding of more than £800m.

Academy headteacher Qamar Riaz said on its unveiling: "We are delighted to have received the investment, from the Football Foundation which has enabled the new 3G pitch to be available to our local community."

Meanwhile Simpson is delighted to see the Ladies club thriving, with a turnout of more than 250 people at the end of the season awards night providing further evidence they are on the up.

**SPORTING FEATURE**

By Nick Elwell

***"I keep saying I am going to step down and then something happens and I carry on. But I enjoy it and we are a football-mad family."***

"Our first season was in 1999 and we are really proud of what we have achieved," said Simpson. "I can't think of another girls and ladies set-up around here that has been going so long.

"Over the years, firstly as Great Wyrley and now as Walsall, we have seen in excess of 1,000 girls and women play football for us.

"We have had success with some of our girls gaining scholarships to play football in America and a couple progressing through the ranks and going on to play for England at various age groups.

"It's difficult at times because we have Wolves, Albion, Villa and Birmingham around us who all have academies.

"We have lost a couple more girls to academies this year and while we are obviously pleased to see them progressing, it can be a bit soul destroying at times when players you have had from the age of six move on at 14 or 15. But we keep going and keep working hard."

Indeed, there has been plenty of hard work from Simpson and his family over the years. He got involved with girls football when his daughter Donna played at Kidderminster, but the family links don't end there.

"I got involved when Donna was at Kidderminster and ended up running the side," he said. "Then when this club got up and running I took on the chairman role and my wife Christine was secretary.

"She did that until she passed away five years ago and Donna is secretary now.

"My son-in-law Neil is vice-chairman and my granddaughters are also involved. Alisha and Amelia play for the under-15s and under-9s, while the other one, Esme, will be starting to play soon.

"I keep saying I am going to step down and then something happens and I carry on. But I enjoy it and we are a football-mad family."

Creating a 'family feel' is key for Simpson and he believes it has been a key ingredient in the club's success.

"We had over 250 people at our end of season presentation night – it was a really good evening," he said.

"There is a real family atmosphere here and a real bond between the officials players and parents.

"You have to get a good balance at a club. You can't take things too seriously. The girls have got to enjoy their football and the parents have to enjoy being part of the club as well," said Simpson.

More youngsters will be coming through the door this season after Simpson unveiled plans to start a 'Wildcats' section for girls aged between four and six.

## Prospering

At the other end of the age scale, Holly Gayler is in charge of the senior side along with Samantha Simpkins. "We want to run sessions for four to six-year-olds and they will run alongside our training sessions on Tuesday nights at the E-Act Academy," said Simpson.

"We are looking to the future and want to have sides running all the way through to the senior side.

"Girls football seems to be prospering at the young age groups although it's a lot more difficult to recruit from the age of 15 upwards.

"The senior side was reformed last year and finished just below mid-table.

"Holly has stepped in to form a management team with Sam, who wants to concentrate more on playing."

The club, which was afforded Charter Standard status in 2002, are looking for players for the forthcoming season and also anyone interested in sponsoring them.

Anyone interested in joining the senior set up should contact Samantha Simpkins on 07782 830359.

For information on the club's other age group sides or sponsorship, contact Brian Simpson on 07817 785690 or email walsallladiesfc@gmail.com

# Denny lines up for latest title challenge

ROWLEY Regis fighter Tyler Denny takes on Reece Cartwright for the English Middleweight Title at Walsall Town Hall next month.

The Midlands Area champion, 27, a product of Old Hill Boxing Club in Cradley Heath, headlines BCB Promotions' latest Town Hall show on September 22 as he bids for national honours.

Co-challenger Reece Cartwright, from Leeds, has racked up 22 bouts at pro at the age of 24, with 21 wins and 12 TKOs to his credit.

The under-card features home favourite James Beech Jr, an undefeated super bantamweight prospect, 21 from Bloxwich. Another Walsall pugilist, Levi Ferguson, also features, while Ryan 'Stewart' Davies, a former kickboxer from Tividale, will be looking to rebound from his first pro defeat. Flyweight 'Pocket Rocket' Dani Hodges, from Burntwood, former national amateur champion Connah Walker, of Wolverhampton, and ex-kickboxer Troi 'the Hawk' Coleman completes the line-up.

For tickets, call the town hall box office on 0845 111 2900.

# Noah earns call-up for Laser Run squad

A WOLVERHAMPTON teenager has been selected to be part of the Laser Run squad at the 2018 School Games. The national multi-sport event for the UK's most talented school-age athletes takes place at Loughborough University from August 30 to September 2.

Noah Sandland, aged 13, a student at the Ounsdale High School and is a member of the Black Country Triathletes, and will compete for the u-14's England Midlands squad in the Laser Run. He has previously competed in both the West Midlands and National Biathlon Championships.

More than 1,400 athletes will compete across 11 sports at the School Games. Laser Run is one of five new disciplines, along with canoeing and rowing, netball and triathlon.

Sandland will experience the excitement of competing at the highest level, living in a dedicated Athletes' Village on the Loughborough University campus, taking part in an School Games ceremony and performing in front of huge crowds of spectators.

# Lions roar into action for inaugural contest

BIRMINGHAM takes centre stage for the first ever club-led international Women's American Football tournament this weekend.

After coming home from Finland with the inaugural Diamond Bowl trophy, Britain's quintuple champions Birmingham Lions, now hope to cement their position as an international forced to be reckoned with.

From tomorrow (Friday), until Sunday. Lions welcome the New-York Sharks and Helsinki Wolverines to UK shores for the first ever Pro-Cloud Transatlantic Trophy. Matches will be held at the University of Birmingham, with New York Sharks and Helsinki Wolverines kicking off the tournament at 7.30pm tomorrow.

Defeated by the Lions in 2017, the Finnish outfit will be looking to even the score come 4pm on Saturday when the teams meet again. The hosts will then close proceedings against the Sharks, kick off 2pm on Sunday.

Fifty per cent of the tournament profits will go towards providing Critical Care Ambulances with the latest life-saving technology.

# Sport

## Ladies' team pitches in to embark on 20th season

Page 35

# Hume horror crash adds to misery

BIRMINGHAM team boss Lawrence Rogers admitted they 'could have won' after a narrow defeat at Kent.

The Brummies went down by just three points 46-43 at the Central Park Stadium in a meeting marred by the visitors losing Danyon Hume through injury, after he was taken from the track with a suspected broken collarbone sustained heat 12 after hitting a large hole on the fourth turn.

Rogers admitted: "We're obviously all gutted for Danyon. It's frustrating because it's a meeting we could have won. If we'd all stayed fit I think we could have sneaked a win.

"The track was very tricky because of all the night that has come down and that probably caused all the incidents.

"There was also a nasty crash in the final race when Nathan Stonemason brought down James Shanes, but thankfully both got up."

Brummies were once again led superbly by Shanes with paid 14 and Tom Bacon 13 while Leon Flint added a very useful eight points after an opening race engine failure.

Flint only dropped one point after encountering bike problems at the start of Heat 3 but was excellent thereafter.

**Kent 46:** Paul Hurry 11, Alex Spooner 8+3, Nathan Stoneman 8+1, Anders Rowe 6+2, Jack Thomas 6, Taylor Hampshire 4, Jamie Couzins 3+2.

**Birmingham 43:** James Shanes 13+1, Tom Bacon 13, Leon Flint 8, Danyon Hume 5+1, Callum Walker 3, Sheldon Davies 1, Josh Embleton 0.

## Brummies boss hails team spirit after biggest win

BIRMINGHAM boss Laurence Rogers hailed his side's team ethic following their biggest win of the season, before their disappointment in Kent.

The Edwards Plumbing Brummies brushed aside a poor Stoke outfit with ease at Perry Barr, romping to a 63-27 success. And while Rogers admits he was always anticipating a big winning margin, he has told how his side's togetherness was the most pleasing aspect of the night. "For me, seeing the smiles on everyone's faces and seeing everyone working together and geeing each other up was brilliant."

Meanwhile Birmingham will host Championship side Peterborough in a special inter-league challenge fixture at Perry Barr on September 12.

Three-time British Champion, and 2013 team member, Chris Harris will lead the Brummies against the Panthers with all-action star Jason Garrity and Wolverhampton skipper Rory Schlein (if fit) completing the top three.

Co-owner David Mason said: "It's something we've been mulling over for a few weeks now as a promotion."

# Moore: Dawson is like a new signing

Return: Craig Dawson

DARREN MOORE says having Craig Dawson back in the team is like making a 'new signing'. Dawson played his first minutes for the Baggies after handing in a transfer request over summer in their 1-0 defeat to Middlesbrough last Friday.

And while Moore gave no clues as to whether he'd feature in tonight's Carabao Cup match with Mansfield Town, he did confirm the defender was a big part of his plans this season.

"It was terrific for the group to have Craig back in the action again on Friday," said Albion's head coach. "The fans do not need me to tell them how important a player he is for the club. He will be like a new signing.

"He's got his fitness levels back up to where we can now look forward to him figuring strongly in our plans."

Defeat to Boro brought a three-game winning streak to a shuddering halt, but Moore has been pleased with how his players have responded in training.

Despite losing at the Riverside, Moore is pleased with how his new-look Albion side is developing. "There's no doubt that it is going to be a difficult place for any team to go to," he said. "They've all been tough away days but I think we are making progress.

"But playing that way is all about playing the percentages and eventually something broke for them. I was a bit stunned at the finish because I was thinking 'Where did that come from?'"

# CLASSIC PULIS SINKS BAGGIES

**IN the end, it went exactly to script, and exactly how Albion fans feared it would.**

After weathering a Teesside storm for much of the game and in particular a one-sided first half, the Baggies were undone by a Tony Pulis centre-back at an injury-time set-piece.

Daniel Ayala, who Pulis brought back into the team for this game, capitalised on some dreadful defending from a deep free-kick in the 91st minute to fire home the winner.

Craig Dawson, who had come off the bench with 20 minutes to go and looked solid, jumped under the ball while Ahmed Hegazi and Kyle Bartley clattered into each other, leaving Ayala unmarked. Before the match, the concern was that Pulis's set-piece specialists would capitalise on Albion's frailties at the back, but for 90 minutes the Baggies repelled every ball into the box.

They had been second best in the first half, when Boro's back five nullified their attack, but grew into proceedings after the break. But just when it looked like a first clean sheet of the season was on the cards, Ayala robbed them of the points in the most archetypal Pulis fashion to send Boro top of the table, overnight at least.

Baggies boss Darren Moore named an unchanged line-up from the one that demolished QPR, although he gave summer sulker Dawson a place on the bench for the first time this season.

Pulis switched to a system with wing-backs that matched Albion, and in an effort to exploit their weakness at defending set-pieces, he loaded up his backline with goliaths.

None of Boro's back five were shorter than 6ft 2in, and they loaded the box at every opportunity, be it a long throw, corner, or free-kick.

It took less than a minute for the hardy souls in the away end who had braved the Bank Holiday traffic to tell their former boss what they thought of his football, and it wasn't complimentary. But it was Pulis's side who started the brighter, and the Baggies were given their first let-off just five minutes in when Jonny Howson's free header in the box hit Britt Assombalonga and bounced inches wide of the post.

Jay Rodriguez takes on Ryan Shotton, but his efforts were for nought when Boro struck in injury time

It was Boro's turn to breathe a sigh of relief when Aden Flint inadvertently crashed the ball into the underside of his own bar attempting to clear a wicked Harvey Barnes cross from the right-hand side. Albion looked most dangerous when they were able to get Barnes on the ball. But too often Moore's men were forced to go long with useless balls that were being easily gobbled up by Boro's big backline. The hosts were also winning possession in midfield too easily, and they were starting to apply some pressure when they had a penalty shout correctly waved away after George Friend's cross hit Tosin Adarabioyo's head. Five minutes into the second half, the Baggies had their best chance so far, when a swift counter-attack left Matt Phillips and Dwight Gayle two-on-one, but the striker shot well over the bar from a decent position.

That miss seemed to jolt the men in electric blue into action, who finally started to pose an attacking threat.

Jake Livermore scooped an effort over the bar soon after before Bartley headed a Barnes free-kick over under pressure from Ayala, and the Albion centre-back was furious it didn't yield a penalty. Eventually, Moore's cultural revolution was undone by a manager with years of experience. In the end, it went exactly to script.

# Dartmouth taken out of running

WEST Bromwich Dartmouth's 20-run defeat at Dorridge on bank holiday Monday means that it is, now, certain that the 2018 Premier Division title will go to Knowle & Dorridge or Berkswell, who meet at Station Road on September 8 in a potential decider. Any mathematical chance of Dartmouth overtaking the leading pair disappeared, as they went down to a resurgent Dorridge.

A stubborn 62 from 129 balls from opening batsman Gary Hawkins enabled Dorridge to reach 163 all out against Dartmouth as Andrew Umeed took 4 for 21 for the visitors, who collapsed from 60 for three to 115 for eight. A bold 52 from Shozair Ali took them closer to their target but once dismissed, the end came quickly. Iftikhar Ahmad (3 for 27) and David Ball (3 for 31) were the best of the bowlers for Dorridge.

Berkswell's match at Smethwick was reduced to 35 overs per side after heavy rain caused a delayed start and a third wicket stand of 164 between Chris Whittock (83) and Nick James (82) set Berkswell on their way to a formidable 251 for six. Recordo Gordon took 3 for 33 for Smethwick who were bowled out in the 30th over of their reply for 175.

Old Hill conceded 60 extras against Handsworth which proved a significant factor in their one run defeat. Waseem Mazhar (52) and Gawayne Evans (41) took Handsworth to a total of 230 all out in 47.4 overs with three wickets apiece for the Old Hill pair of Zahid Kafiat and Zain Shahid who both conceded 39 runs.

## U23s for Albion are beaten by Norwich

ALBION'S under-23s went down to a 4-0 defeat against Norwich City at the Baggies' Palm Training Ground home on Monday afternoon. Adam Idah scored a hat-trick for the Canaries, while Ant Spyrou got the other.

Meanwhile, Wolves' under-23s ran out comfortable 2-0 winners over their counterparts from Newcastle United on Monday night. Niall Ennis and Austin Samuels scored either side of half-time at AFC Telford United's New Bucks Head ground to hand Wolves victory.

Villa were 2-1 winners over Fulham, Jordan Cox netting the second-half winner.

★★★

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# In a class o

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**Bristnall Hall Academy is a vibrant, nurturing school which prides itself on the improvements we are making year on year. Students receive a superb level of focus from staff to support them whilst they are at the academy, and develop skills, attributes and excellent portfolios of qualifications that will support them in the future.**

Bristnall Hall Academy has been recognised nationally for its excellent results based on data from the Department for Education and Ofsted, analysed by SSAT (the Schools, Students and Teachers network). Bristnall Hall Academy was found to be among the best performing secondary schools in the country, receiving an award for being in the top 20% of schools nationally for progress. The award follows an outstanding Progress 8 figure as Bristnall Hall Academy demonstrates year on year improvement, with figures among the highest in the West Midlands. Bristnall Hall Academy's Progress 8 scores are positive in every category, including the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. The outstanding Progress 8 figure shows that students of all abilities are making transformational progress, particularly with high ability students.

Students conduct around the academy is something we are very proud of and we are always happy to show visitors around to see our learning community at work at any time of day. The caring, community ethos at Bristnall Hall results in older students supporting and guiding younger students that join us, and students in Key Stage 3 benefit greatly from having strong role models from their peers and staff.

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# of our own
# ALL ACADEMY

be complemented by additional planned buildings and pdated facilities being installed this year. We have invested a uge amount into the ICT infrastructure which is set to contin-e with more hardware and even faster connectivity to support nd accelerate the learning that takes place. We have an excel-ent team of teaching and support staff who pride themselves on leveloping strong relationships with our young people, where we ave much smaller than average class sizes and a very high staff to tudent ratio.

he package students receive here includes a free breakfast club or all students every morning and a rich extra-curricular programme hat includes academic opportunities alongside a multitude of others ncluding sports and performing. In recent years, many secondary chools have limited the amount of experiences students have way from the school site, but at Bristnall Hall we place great value n students partaking in day and residential visits to enhance their earning, build confidence and to give them enriching experiences. s a result, students have many opportunities that are local, national nd overseas.

t is clear that Bristnall Hall Academy is in a great position with ignificant improvements in all areas including attendance, facilities nd confidence of our fantastic young people. Due to the high tandards, relentless focus on the quality of learning and teaching, oupled with exceptional care for our young people, Bristnall Hall cademy is an outstanding place to learn and work in.

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Bristnall Hall Academy

# Bristnall Hall Academy Celebrates Another Year of Amazing Results!

**Pupils are celebrating their achievements as GCSE results are revealed with this year's cohort making significant progress in both English and Mathematics.**

The results demonstrate success for the fourth consecutive year. Performance in the highest grades was particularly strong with several pupils achieving grade 9 and 8 passes in English, Mathematics and other Ebacc subjects. These amazing results follow Bristnall Hall Academy's accreditation as a 'Leading Edge' school, following an SSAT Educational Outcomes Award. Alongside the introduction of the new, more challenging GCSE examinations in the entire EBacc qualifications, both progress and attainment continue to improve at the academy across the ability range.

Amongst many pupils at the academy celebrating their success are Gurpreet Singh, Zain Yousef, Euan James, Parminder Kaur, Holly Marthews, Maryam Umar and Todd Leathem. These students achieved top 9-7 grades (A*-A equivalent), positioning them amongst the top performing students nationally.

Vince Green, Principal at Bristnall Hall Academy commented: 'This is another excellent set of results from an outstanding set of young people and sustains the year on year rapid improvement and high performance at our academy. These great outcomes are testimony to the pupils' hard work and that of the brilliant team of teachers, support staff, parents, carers and governors that we have at Bristnall Hall and I thank all of them. I am especially pleased to see how our young people have dealt so successfully with the increased level of challenge in the EBacc examinations. These exceptional results will enable our students to compete with other elite students nationally.'

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